

**YOUTH****Robotics team ends year with award, Page 11****LACROSSE****Agawam native's hat trick lifts Owls, Page 14****PHOTOS****Food and fun at Irish dinner, Page 23**

AGAWAM ADVERTISER NEWS

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www.agawamadvertiser.turley.com**HOMETOWN HERO**

‘She’s still helping me’

Teen honored for lifesaving actions remains at boyfriend’s side through recovery

By Mike Lydick
aan@turley.com

Agawam teenager Sydney Bryden doesn’t consider herself a hero. But her quick actions last summer saved Antonio Bruno’s life.

Bryden is among seven “heroes” set to be honored March 17 by the Red Cross of Western Massachusetts for exemplifying “the true spirit of a hero by showing courage, kindness, and unselfish character.” Chosen from more than 40 nominees, Bryden is being honored at the annual Hometown Heroes Breakfast.

Bruno and Bryden were hiking when Bruno fell off a cliff. He landed about 70 feet below on a pile of rocks in a quarry on the Agawam-Southwick line. Reacting swiftly, she raced toward the quarry’s bottom while a friend with her called the Agawam and Southwick fire departments. At the bottom, she risked her own life, climbing 30 feet of jagged rocks to reach Bruno.

“He was conscious but unaware of what had just happened. He was bleeding severely from his face. I



Eight months after saving Antonio Bruno’s life, Sydney Bryden, right, will be honored as a “hometown hero” on March 17 by the Red Cross. Above, Bryden and Bruno hold a copy of the Agawam Advertiser News with the story about the July 2 accident. TURLEY PUBLICATIONS PHOTO BY MIKE LYDICK

HERO | page 6

ST. PATRICK’S DAY

Marching in their footsteps

Holyoke Parade is a family affair for Agawam’s Colleen

By Gregory A. Scibelli
gscibelli@turley.com

Being named the town’s Colleen was a childhood dream for Elizabeth Caracciolo — but it is also a family tradition.

When Caracciolo rides atop the Agawam float during the March 20 Holyoke St. Patrick’s Day Parade, she’ll enjoy a view of the parade that she’s already heard about from her mother, a former member of the 1987 Colleen court in Holyoke, and her aunt, who was Grand Colleen in 2004.

Elizabeth recalled the 2004 contest fondly.

“I was only in fourth grade when my Auntie Sheila won,” she said. “She became the 50th Grand Colleen for Holyoke. I remember the air of excitement for my family around that time.”

She said her family would look at the parade floats yearly and tell



The 2016 Agawam Colleen Elizabeth Caracciolo, center, with her mother, Roseanne Caracciolo, left, a Holyoke Colleen Court member in 1987, and aunt, Sheila Gould, the 2004 Holyoke Grand Colleen. TURLEY PUBLICATIONS PHOTO BY GREGORY A. SCIBELLI

her that it would be her, someday.

“I never thought the day would actually come,” said Elizabeth.

Over the years, she would see the photos at her aunt Sheila Gould’s house, but said she had a recent encounter with sev-

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Meet the honorees

The parade marshal, Anne Sullivan Award honoree and Citizenship Award honoree will lead the Agawam contingent at the March 20 parade. Stories, page 3

ANIMAL CONTROL

Dog tags go green this year

By Michael J. Ballway
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With less than half the month remaining, it’s time for dog owners in Agawam to make sure their four-legged friends are registered for the coming year.

License applications are due by April 1. License holders will receive a green collar tag in the shape of a doghouse — intended as a constant reminder of the importance of responsible dog ownership, particularly by children.

“It starts with our kids at home,” said Animal Control Officer Allison Strong.

Strong said this year’s dog tag design was chosen by a little girl in Agawam, who received Dog Tag No. 1. The color green, said Strong, was chosen in part because of its connection with 4-H, a youth organization that promotes the care of animals.

The focus on responsibility is also a reminder that the town animal control office plays a role in educating the next generation of dog owners, Strong said. She said she’s glad to speak to youth groups when asked.

“Anytime, anybody — girl



This year’s dog license tags come in the shape of green doghouses, for responsible pet ownership. Previous years’ tags were dedicated to honoring soldiers, police officers and firefighters. TURLEY PUBLICATIONS PHOTO BY MICHAEL J. BALLWAY

scouts, church groups — all they have to do is call,” Strong said.

In addition to running programs on how to care for a dog, Strong also gives talks to youth on dog bite prevention.

Strong said she’s chosen each year’s dog tag based on a different theme for the past few years, starting with red fire hydrants to honor firefighters and blue badges for police officers.

Last year’s dog tags were heart-shaped and colored purple, honoring military veterans and Agawam’s designation of a Purple

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24 PAGES

Novelist ready to chase away winter blues

Author and journalist Durham Caldwell is doing his part to chase away the wintertime blues and welcome spring by reading from his newest book, the comic novella "An Unusual Arrangement," Monday, March 21, at the Agawam Public Library.

"An Unusual Arrangement" centers on a young couple, Jon and Ginger, who take a shine to each other when she comes to work at a small-town radio station on Cape Cod where he hosts the morning talk show. Their adventures include matching wits with a bank robber who tries to hijack Jon's car with Ginger in it, joining the local sunbathing society in attempting to save its nude beach from foreclosure by a money-grubbing banker who wants to build luxury condominiums, and umpiring a police-versus-firefighters softball game in which the police slugger squares away to blast one out of the park only to discover too late that it's not a softball he's swinging at.

Caldwell was news director for 24 years at what is now WGGB-TV 40 and also had news director stints at radio stations WSPR and WHYN. After leaving broadcasting, he worked 22 years as an editor and columnist for the Ludlow Register, a sister newspaper to the Agawam Advertiser News, before retiring in 2011.

The program at the Agawam Library, 750 Cooper St., begins at 7 p.m. A discussion period, also open to questions about Caldwell's years as an active journalist, will follow the readings. "An Unusual Arrangement," as well as Caldwell's earlier books, will be on sale at discounted prices.



Durham Caldwell will be the guest speaker March 21 at the Agawam Library, where he will read from his newest book, "An Unusual Arrangement." SUBMITTED PHOTO

Dinner to honor saints Patrick, Joseph

The Spiritual Life Committee at Sacred Heart Parish will host "Dinner With the Saints" Saturday, March 19, in honor of St. Patrick and St. Joseph. The event will begin at 5 p.m. with a social hour, followed by dinner at 6 p.m.

Dinner will include corned beef, cabbage, boiled potatoes, carrots, Irish soda bread, rye bread, dessert and coffee and tea for \$15 per person. Wine, beer and soda will be available for sale. There will also be music, raffle prizes and a short presentation on the lives of these two saints.

Tickets, which are available at the Sacred Heart Parish office, 1061 Springfield St., Feeding Hills, must be purchased in advance. There will be no tickets sold at the door. Seating is limited.

You Asked? Learn rules to recycling

Anyone have any idea why a recycling guy wouldn't take a broken recyclable recycling bin? I have a blue "Agawam Recycles" recycling bin that broke in half, so I put it in another bin with my other plastics. ... Recycling guy came this morning and took the recycling but put that bin in my trash can.

— Stefan, on "Agawam, MA Open Forum" at Facebook.com

Recycling bins aren't recyclable, according to Tracy DeMaio, the solid waste disposal coordinator at the Department of Public Works.

A broken blue bin should be thrown out with the trash, and the resident should stop by DPW headquarters at 1000 Suffield St., Agawam, to pick up a replacement. New residents in Agawam can receive two blue bins for free; current residents get up to one replacement bin at no charge. Additional replacements are \$5 each.

If an additional bin is required — if a blue bin broke on the night before recycling day, or if there's too much recycling that week to

fit in two blue bins — residents can place their recyclables in any similarly sized bin, as long as it is clearly marked "Recycling." Items in unmarked bins, items in bags or items left loose on the curb may not be picked up, DeMaio said.

Another common mistake that results in recycling not being picked up is improperly mixing paper recycling with bottles and cans. Every household should have two bins, to keep paper separate from plastic, metal and glass. That may change in the future, DeMaio said, as Agawam is considering the cost-effectiveness of a "single-stream" recycling system, in which all items would be placed in a wheeled tote provided by the town.

Written by Michael J. Ballway. "You Asked?" is an occasional series of short articles answering questions of local interest from Agawam Advertiser News readers and social media. See something around town you'd like to know more about? Email your question to aan@turley.com.

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Photos with the Easter Bunny!

CITIZENSHIP AWARD

Cecchi no stranger to representing his town

By Gregory A. Scibelli
gscibelli@turley.com

David Cecchi does not have an ounce of Irish in him, but he will be decked out in his green sash at the St. Patrick's Day Parade in Holyoke as he represents Agawam as the 2016 Citizenship Award winner.

The award is given yearly by the committee to a citizen who exemplifies service to the community. The individual need not be a member of the St. Patrick's Committee, and Cecchi said he is honored to be in the same conversation as other recipients.

"Marilyn Curry received the award last year," said Cecchi, referring to his colleague in the Historical Society. "I was shocked to learn that I had been chosen this year. Marilyn has done so much and I am honored to be considered on that same level as her."

Cecchi has a long history of service to the town of Agawam. He took part in the parade many years ago as member of the



David Cecchi, town historian, was honored by the St. Patrick's Committee with the 2016 Citizenship Award. TURLEY PUBLICATIONS PHOTO BY GREGORY A. SCIBELLI

Agawam School Committee.

He has also been a fundraiser while his sons were on the band, is the chair of the Agawam Historical Commission, a member of the Agawam Historical Society, and member of the Board of Directors for the Captain Charles Leonard House.

He said he is glad to represent Agawam in a new way, being a part of this year's parade.

"I think it is great that a parade like this has such a huge contingent from Agawam," said Cecchi. "That is what I liked best about marching in it before. We have a huge group of people that are proudly representing our town."

In this year's parade, Cecchi said he has been told he will likely be marching near the Agawam High School band, something he is looking forward to.

"I will love hearing the sound of the band marching behind me when I march in this year's parade," said Cecchi. "I'm looking forward to this and appreciate the committee giving me this honor."

ANNE SULLIVAN AWARD

Former court member is now the 'mama' helping this year's court

By Gregory A. Scibelli
gscibelli@turley.com

For Nicole Bertera, to be on a list of recipients of the Anne Sullivan Award is a great honor, and bears with it a great responsibility.

Bertera takes her duties seriously as award-winner serves as the "mama" to the Colleen and their court each year.

Bertera, who came to work in Agawam several years ago, wanted to get involved in the community, and joined the St. Patrick's Committee to honor both her heritage and her love of community service.

She was a court member in 2007 and was also friends with St. Patrick's Committee member Rosemary Sandlin. She told Sandlin she was looking to contribute, and joined the committee three years ago.

She became a part of the St. Patrick's

Committee and took on the responsibility of co-chairing the Colleen Coronation. She not only goes through several meetings between January and February organizing the coronation event, which culminates in the crowning of the Colleen, but she also becomes the chaperone for the court through the St. Patrick's season.

She guides them through the different events and appearances they make during the season and makes sure they are everywhere they need to be.

"I have so much fun going around with the girls," said Bertera. "As a former court member, I know how much fun it is and I want to make sure these girls all have a wonderful experience."

She recognized the example of Feeding Hills native Anne Sullivan, who dedicated herself to assisting Helen Keller. She said the service award recognizes a person who

PARADE MARSHAL

McCarthy to lead this year's parade contingent

By Gregory A. Scibelli
gscibelli@turley.com

For more than 25 years, John McCarthy, owner of McCarthy's Liquors, has gone to the Holyoke St. Patrick's Day parade and enjoyed watching the creative floats and the celebration of Irish heritage.

Now he will be leading the charge after being named the 2016 parade marshal by the Agawam St. Patrick's Committee.

McCarthy said he regularly contributes to fundraisers and other functions put by the committee, and was in attendance on Monday night at the annual corned beef and cabbage dinner held at the Agawam Senior Center.

He and his wife, Manon, said they were in shock when they learned he would be leading the parade.

"I was just so happy for him," said Manon.

John McCarthy said he was honored to be chosen. He is not a regular member of

the St. Patrick's Committee, and appreciated being chosen by the group.

"I have always really enjoyed going to the parade," McCarthy said. "I love seeing all the different floats and so many people I know marching in the parade."

He never thought he would actually be the one who gets the march in the parade and lead the charge for Agawam.

McCarthy has been living in town for the last 25 years, but came from Springfield, which names its own Colleen, builds a float, and is represented in the parade.

Having attended the parade and other Irish events in the area for so many reasons, he is most thrilled with the fact he becomes part of such a great tradition.

"There's always so many great parts to the parade with the floats and the colleens," he said. "But the best part is the fact that it is such a rich tradition throughout the area. Everyone comes together and it is such a great event. And the tradition continues to be strong today."



Agawam's 2016 parade marshal, John McCarthy, will lead Division H in the Holyoke St. Patrick's Day Parade this Sunday. TURLEY PUBLICATIONS PHOTO BY GREGORY A. SCIBELLI



Nicole Bertera, the 2016 Anne Sullivan Award winner, has been chaperoning the Colleen and her court, and will march in Sunday's parade. TURLEY PUBLICATIONS PHOTO BY GREGORY A. SCIBELLI

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Opinion

OUR VIEW

Who should be in the Hall? Your call

The Agawam High School Athletic Hall of Fame Committee needs your help.

Graduates of Agawam High School, you know that Brownie athletics were a big part of your life — whether you were a varsity star, a role player, a spectator or even just a classmate. You know the impact that Agawam's high school championship teams, athletes and coaches have had on the school and on the community as a whole.

Now, Athletic Director David Stratton is looking to honor those past players, coaches, and teams that left everything on the field for Agawam High School.

The committee now needs your help to recognize those individuals. But so far, there have been few nominations for athletes. A group of Agawam sports enthusiasts led by Stratton have worked very hard to lay the groundwork for a hall of fame that will pay tribute to those that have excelled on the sports field.

The committee is looking for athletes, teams and contributors who have distinguished themselves in athletics at Agawam High School, as well as in their college and professional lives. In last week's newspaper, columnist Walt Willard offered some of his own suggestions, naming Agawam's own NFL star, Roger Leclerc, along with Tommy Knight and Tom Panke. All three earned their varsity letters more than half a century ago. In the intervening years, who else has risen to their level of achievement? For that matter, who else, among their contemporaries, deserves recognition?

If you grew up in Agawam, or if you raised children in Agawam — or even if you've lived here for more than a few years — you probably know someone who should be a Hall of Famer.

Nomination form directions must be followed exactly with all necessary information included. Incomplete nomination forms will not be accepted, so please be as accurate and complete as possible. Nominations are due April 1 to be considered for this year's inaugural class.

Nomination packets are available at the Agawam High School Athletic Department Office and at www.agawampublicschools.org/pages/Agawam_PS/Athletics/Athletics.

There are so many great athletes that have come through the school system over the years. There have been state champions in the past, and players that have transcended the normal expectations.

As Agawam prepares to christen new and improved athletic facilities, help out the committee and take out a nominate form, fill it out, and have your favorite athlete, coach, or team get the recognition they deserve later this year.

The induction ceremony will be held in October. Please help give the high school an inaugural class to remember.

What do you think? Send your letter to the editor to aan@turley.com.

Let us know

The Agawam Advertiser News, your community newspaper, welcomes letters, submissions, photographs and news tips from residents of Agawam and Feeding Hills.

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Letter to the Editor

Citizenship Award winner honored

This native son of Polish and Italian extraction would like to thank the Agawam St. Patrick's Committee for selecting me for their 2016 Citizenship Award. I am humbled that they feel I measure up to the high standard of community involvement set by previous honorees. Having my sash presented to me by my dear friend Marilyn Curry at the recent Colleen's Brunch was especially meaningful — it was over 25 years ago that Marilyn invited me to join the committee that raised funds to purchase and install the Anne Sullivan sculpture in Feeding Hills Center, among the first of many volunteer efforts for me.

I am lucky to have had examples set for me by people in my life such as my grandfather, Ted Dynia (who himself was presented a Citizenship Award by the Agawam Town Council in 1994), Bill Euliano, and my

mom, Emily Cecchi, who each in their own way demonstrated the very best traits of "good citizenship."

Agawam is full of citizens equally deserving of this award — teaching our children, coaching youth sports, serving on civic organizations and on town committees. Thank you all for helping to make our town a better place to live.

I feel fortunate to be able to give back to this community that has been so good to me and my family over the years, and I am honored for the opportunity to march with the contingent representing our town in next week's Holyoke St. Patrick's Day Parade. Thank you.

David Cecchi
Agawam

JAY SPEAKS

They pass through our lives

Kitty and I took out a few photo albums to seek pictures that would match my stories in the new book I had written. It is Book No. 4 in the series titled "A Life of Fun and Adventure." Many of the stories deal with family and friends.

As we turned the pages, we would see people in this story. People who had been a part of our lives, some briefly and others for a long spell. We stopped at a few, recalling some event that pleased us. I have written about a few in the story below. I hope you enjoy the reading as much as I do the telling.

Lazar Stambovsky was truly a religious person who did good deeds every day. When our daughter Cynthia became engaged to her fiancé Bill, Lazar insisted that he wanted to have a celebration at his Sabbath service. During the summer, not too many days went by when Lazar was not at the door with a summer crop — peas, corn, asparagus, beans or tomatoes.

One day, Kitty and I were walking through Forest Park and we noted Laz up ahead with his Bible in one hand, on his way to services. We called out to him, "Lazar!" If you were walking and heard someone calling your name, you would look, left, right and behind you. Not Lazar. He looked up; God was calling him.

Hy Landsman married my mom several years after my dad died. After my dad's death, she traveled with friends for a while. Then she settled into a good position with Morse Shoe at their headquarters in Boston. Hy met her there and they became engaged and decided that they wanted to settle in Florida.

My two sisters, their husbands, and Kitty and I offered to buy a condo for them in Coconut Creek. Once they were married, Kitty and I would visit periodically. Kitty would always bring a challah bread with

us for the Sabbath.

The challah was placed on the dining room table during the afternoon while it defrosted. My mom, Kitty and I went down to the pool for a swim before dinner. As my mom was setting the table for dinner, she noted the challah was missing. After checking the most logical places, she asked Hy if he knew where it was. He answered, "I ate it." Mom said all right, you had a slice, where is the rest of it? Hy responded, I ate all of it! My mother was appalled. "You are kidding!" "No, I vahnted it!" (wanted it). Fortunately, there was a backup challah in the freezer.

Harry Willner was the father of my sister Marilyn's husband David. We would see Harry often, inasmuch as our families got together often for holidays. Harry had a butter and egg business in Manhattan. One day we were all in Harry's car. Harry was driving, Kitty in the middle and I was in the passenger seat with David and Marilyn in the rear. We were traveling from Philadelphia to Atlantic City. I had picked up a copy of Life Magazine and was reading it on the way.

I had finished reading a story and was turning the page for a new story. Harry exploded, "Don't turn the page! I haven't read the last page!" I wanted to say, "But Harry, you are driving." I didn't, I just turned back the page.

It has been said ... It has been written ... "treasure the good memories." We will come across other people who had an impact on our lives and we will write down those good memories.

Jay Berger is retired from a job in publishing and lives in Agawam with his wife Kitty. They have three children and six grandchildren.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR
must include a name, address, and daytime telephone number for author verification purposes. We do not publish anonymous letters. All letters are subject to editing for content and space. The deadline is Monday at Noon. Please send letters to Agawam Advertiser News, Letters to the Editor, Attn: Teri Machia, 380 Union Street, Suite 52; West Springfield, MA 01089 or e-mail aan@turley.com.

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FAITH MATTERS

The difficulties of faith

Why is faith so difficult? There seems to be something that tries to hinder us from living a life of faith. Reason, rather than faith, usually wins the day. Yet, the scriptures declare, "The just shall live by faith," and "Without faith, it is impossible to please God." Whenever we attempt to do something important, to take the steps of faith, there is a resistance that comes and we settle for a few chips and a dip and an episode of "Downton Abbey." The more important the work, the more resistance we feel.

The reason we find faith to be difficult is that there is a war. For some of us, this seems too drastic a statement, but it is real. There is a war raging in our hearts to shut down anything that pleases God. This war is especially directed toward those who have surrendered to the love of God through faith in Jesus Christ. The writer of Hebrews addresses Christians who had family members imprisoned or killed, and wondered if their faith in Jesus was worth it. These were

Christians who were concerned about their future because of the attack on their faith. They became weary.

In Hebrews 10:37 and 38 the writer states, "For in just a little while, he who is coming will come and will not delay. But my righteous one will live by faith. And I take no pleasure in the one who shrinks back."

Let those words sink in. "I take no pleasure in those who shrink back." Do not allow yourself to be intimidated. Do not be afraid of what God has called you to do. Do not trust in yourself, nor be afraid. This is the hour to stand and fight the good fight of faith.

So, I make an appeal that we fight. We reinforce our beliefs. We re-supply those in battle with us through our prayers and resources. And we reload, re-up and re-engage the enemies of our faith.

The Rev. Richard Adams is senior pastor at Bethany Assembly of God on Main Street in Agawam.



Rev. Richard Adams

School Committee Meeting

Roberta G. Doering School
68 Main St.
Tuesday, March 22 — 7 p.m.

1. Call to order
2. Moment of silence
3. Roll call of attendance
4. Regular meeting — 7 p.m.
5. Citizen's Speak Time
6. Highlights on Education:

 - a. M.A.S.S. Friend of Education Award to Richard Stepanik
 - b. Shane Foundation Logo Contest winner
 - c. Superintendent's Notes
 - d. Student Advisory Committee representative update
 - e. Unfinished Business: None

10. Business meeting
 - a. Routine matters
 - 1) Approval of minutes
 - 2) Calendar/Correspondence
 - b. Warrants/Transfers
 - c. Reports:
 - 1). Scheduled Reports:
 - Personnel Update (paper report)
 - Financial Update — R. Clickstein
 - SPED program update — A. Rist and K. Cass
 - 2). Subcommittee updates
 11. New business:
 - a. SCR-16-11, To establish the Fitness Club as an extracurricular activity at the Roberta G. Doering School
 12. Any other items that may legally come before the committee
 13. Adjournment

Criminal Defense
413-746-9800

Attorney Anthony C. Bonavita
1145 Main Street, Suite 503
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CITY COUNCIL AGENDA

**7 p.m. Monday, March 21, Roberta G. Doering School,
68 Main St., Agawam**

A. Roll call

B. Moment of silence and the Pledge of Allegiance

C. Citizen's speak time

D. Minutes

1. Regular council meeting — March 7, 2016

E. Declaration from council president

F. Presentation of Petitions and Resolutions

1. TR-2016-15- A Resolution to appropriate funds for Massachusetts Nurses Association (Mayor) (Referred to Finance Committee) (Tabled 3/7/16)

2. TR-2016-16- A Resolution to appropriate \$61,698.58 from the Agawam Golf Course's Retained Earnings account to various Golf Course Operating Accounts (Mayor) (Referred to Finance and Ad Hoc Golf Committees)

3. TR-2016-17- A Resolution confirming the appointment of Aldo Manzini, Jr., 482 S. West St., Feeding Hills, to the Agawam Veteran's Council to a term expiring April 1, 2019 (Mayor)

4. TR-2016-18- A Resolution to name the bandshell at School Street Park in honor of Darcy B. Davis, Jr. (Mayor)

5. TR-2016-19- A Resolution appropriating funds from Golf Course Retained Earnings to the General Fund (Mayor) (Referred to Finance and Ad Hoc Golf Committees)

G. Report of council committees

H. Elections

I. Public hearings

J. Old business

1. TOR-2016-1- An Ordinance to amend the Code of the Town of Agawam Chapter 49 titled "Personnel" to update the wages for certain unclassified positions (Mayor) (2 of 2 Readings) (Referred to Legislative Committee)

2. TO-2016-6- Budgetary Transfer (Mayor) (Referred to Finance and Ad Hoc Golf Committees)

From the following:

Golf Adv & Promotion - 65262-52010 - \$1,200.00

Golf Eq. Rep/Maint Rep - 65262-52030 - \$2,000.00

Golf Telephone - 65262-52150 - \$639.00

Golf Dues & Sub. - 65262-52170 - \$137.00

Golf Contractual Serv. - 65262-52360 - \$2,320.00

Golf Fuel & Oil - 65262-52130 - \$6,500.00

Golf Chemicals & Lab - 65262-52310 - \$3237.00

To the following:

Golf Reg. Temp. - 65261-51020 - \$11,458.00

Golf Overtime - 65261-51030 - \$150.00

Golf Grds&Bld Maint - 65262-52020 - \$1,058.00

Golf Misc. - 65262-52290 - \$137.00

Golf Material&Equip. - 65262-52370 - \$3,000.00

Golf Telephone - 65269-52150 - \$230.00

3. TO-2016-7- Council transfer of \$1,500.00 from Council Professional Services (#11112-52190) to Travel/Training (#11112-52390) (Council)

4. TO-2016-8- Voucher \$2,587.87 (Council)

5. TO-2016-9- Budgetary transfer for DPW of \$50,000.00 from Street/Infrastructure Improvement Program (#16610-52460) to Highway & Grounds Professional Services (#14202-52990) (Mayor) (Referred to Finance Committee)

K. New business: Unavailable at press time.

L. Any other matter that may legally come before the City Council.

Adjournment

DEATH NOTICES

Brusig, Avis L.

Died March 8
Funeral March 14
Curran Jones Funeral Home
Agawam

Paltz, Mary L.

Died March 6
Funeral March 11
Agawam Funeral Home, Inc.

Sullivan, Jeremiah T.

Died March 11
Funeral March 16
Colonial Forastiere Funeral
Home of Agawam

Agawam Advertiser News Obituary Policy

Turley Publications offers two types of obituaries.

One is a free, brief **Death Notice** listing the name of deceased, date of death and funeral date and place.

The other is a **Paid Obituary**, costing \$50, which allows families to publish extended death notice information of their own choice and may include a photograph.

Death Notices & Paid Obituaries should be submitted through a funeral home to: obits@turley.com.

Exceptions will be made only when the family provides a death certificate and must be pre-paid.

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ANGELA'S HAIR SALON



Glenmeadow Getaways

National Parks and Lodges of the Old West

Trip Dates: July 13-22, 2016

INFORMATION SESSIONS:

Thursday, March 24, 2016

10:00 a.m. Springfield Museums

21 Edwards St., Springfield, MA

5:00 p.m. Glenmeadow

24 Tabor Crossing, Longmeadow, MA

This journey celebrates the American West's magnificent National Parks, including stays at landmark lodging within the parks themselves. Travel in style and comfort while experiencing the country our ancestors dreamed about—and that still resides here. See the best of the West, from Mount Rushmore to Old Faithful, Spearfish Canyon to the Snake River.



Trip is offered in partnership with the Springfield Museums. To register for an information session, call Torrie Dearborn at 413.567.5547 or e-mail tdearborn@glenmeadow.org. For more details visit glenmeadow.org/getaways. **Glenmeadow**



Shakespeare & Co. brings 'Macbeth' to town

Agawam High School will once again be the venue for a performance by Shakespeare & Co. from Lenox. On Tuesday, April 26, this professional troupe will perform the famous, and equally infamous, tragedy of "Macbeth." Auditorium seats will be set aside for the general public to attend, and admission is free. Doors open to the public at 8:45 a.m. Curtain is at 9:20 a.m. Parking is available in the lower lot of the high school.

This condensed version of Macbeth runs approximately 90 minutes. It seeks to engage students as well as the general public in the rich language of the author. The actors work to develop a rapport with the audience as this famous tragedy comes alive with all its dramatic ruminations on the perils of power, ambition and politics.

The Agawam Cultural Council is sponsoring this event as part of its "Give Back to the Community Program." The event is free and open to the public. Reservations are required for the general public to attend. For reservations, contact Tina Dunham at 413-783-0502 or email tinamarie154@yahoo.com. Agawam High School is at 760 Cooper St.

The Agawam Cultural Council is an all-volunteer local partner of the Massachusetts Cultural Council, a state agency which provides part of its funding. The Agawam Cultural Council is charged with bringing engaging, entertaining, and educational events and opportunities in the arts, humanities, and interpretive sciences, to children and adults from Agawam and the surrounding communities.

Learn about running for office March 29

The Agawam Democratic Town Committee will sponsor a program titled "Non-Partisan Informational Session on Running for Political Office" at 6 p.m., Tuesday, March 29. The event will take place in the Garden Room at the Agawam Senior Center, 954 Main St.

Guest speakers will include Harold Petrucci from the Massachusetts office of the secretary of state, Jason Tai from the Office of Campaign Finance and Christian Quatrone, chairman of the Agawam Democratic Town Committee.

Among the topics to be discussed will be roles and responsibilities of state, county and local offices; qualifications to run for office; process required to be on the ballot; campaign finance law; resources for campaign training and setting up a campaign.

There will be a question and answer time following the presentation. For more information, contact Corinne Wingard at 413-786-9467 or email corinnemarie@comcast.net

All are welcome.

Authors sought for local book signing event

The Agawam Public Library is seeking local authors to participate in the fifth annual READLocal book-signing event to be held from 6:30 to 8:30 p.m. Monday, June 20. The event will be the kickoff to the library's 12th Adult Summer Reading Program. This year, the program's theme is "On Your Mark, Get Set ... Read!"

The event will be held in the library's Community Room at 750 Cooper St., Aga-

wam. Each author will have his or her own table on which to set up a display, meet and greet readers and sell books.

Interested authors must have published a book for adults and not have previously participated in an author event at the Agawam Library. Book summary and contact information should be sent to Wendy McAnanama at wmcanganama@agawamlibrary.org by May 13. Space is limited.

HERO ■ from page 1

turned him over, removed my shirt, and wrapped it around his face to stop the bleeding," recalled Bryden, now 18 and an Agawam High School senior.

She kept Bruno calm as firefighters loaded him into a basket to get him down off the rocks. He was in critical condition.

He suffered a fractured skull, a traumatic brain injury, broke five ribs as well as his jaw, neck, femur, nose, ankle and an eye socket. His facial bones were smashed. His lungs and liver were punctured. He lost seven teeth. He was bleeding internally.

In addition, part of his spleen was removed and he needed a feeding tube because his jaw was wired shut. Bruno spent two weeks in the ICU before being transferred to a rehabilitation center in Boston.

Composed but scared

Although Bryden was composed while helping Bruno, she was frightened by what had occurred.

"On the inside, I was panicking. As I ran to help Antonio, I was convinced he was dead. I thought there was no possible way someone could survive that kind of fall," she said, recalling the terrible afternoon of July 2.

Despite her fears, Bryden "hoped and prayed" for the best.

"I think I did it because I couldn't picture my life without Antonio. He's not only my boyfriend, but he's also my best friend. I would do this for anyone I cared about and loved."

Bruno has no memory of the accident. It wasn't until several weeks after his accident that finally Bruno learned what Bryden had done.

"Sydney never shared with anyone just how much she helped me," he said. "All she really said was that she made the 911 call, ran down to the quarry to be with me, and took her shirt off to cover my face to try to stop the bleeding."

Two months after his fall, Bruno learned more about Bryden's heroic actions during a visit to thank firefighters.

"Two Southwick firefighters told me Sydney saved my life," he recalled. "They said she was a hero."

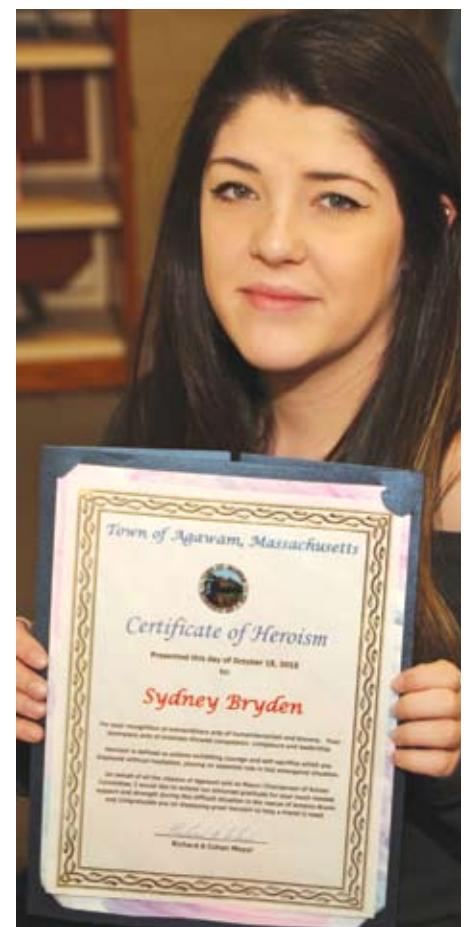
Now 18, he's also an AHS senior. Bruno, who has endured multiple surgeries during his ongoing recovery, said it was very "emotional" to hear about Sydney's actions.

"It took a while for it to really sink in. I'm not surprised at what she did — that's the kind of person she is," he said. "She would do it for anyone. I'll always be thankful to Sydney for the rest of my life for everything she did."

Bryden said she was "completely shocked" — but honored — to learn she was receiving the Red Cross award. She added that she doesn't feel like a hero: "I just like to help people who are in need."

An artist, she now wants to use her skills to help people who are ailing.

"We're both artists, so when Antonio was in rehab we did a lot of drawing and painting," she said. "It helped him recover and made him happy."



Sydney Bryden holds the certificate of heroism she received last October from the town of Agawam for her "courage and self-sacrifice" to help save the life of her boyfriend, Antonio Bruno. Firefighters called her a hero for her quick action when Bruno was critically injured after a fall at a quarry last July. TURLEY PUBLICATIONS PHOTO BY MIKE LYDICK

'Absolute altruistic action'

The Red Cross award isn't the first one Bryden has received for her lifesaving actions. In October, Agawam Mayor Richard Cohen presented her with a certificate of heroism for her "courage and self-sacrifice" during an emergency situation. Cohen then nominated Bryden for the Red Cross award.

"Her quick response exemplifies an absolute altruistic action," he said. "I'm pleased the Red Cross accepted my nomination as she is most deserving."

Bruno said he's very happy Bryden was chosen. "She deserves it. She must have been so scared that day — but she still made all the right choices and had the courage to do what the firefighters told me she did."

Since the accident, Bryden has been very helpful and supportive to Bruno and his family.

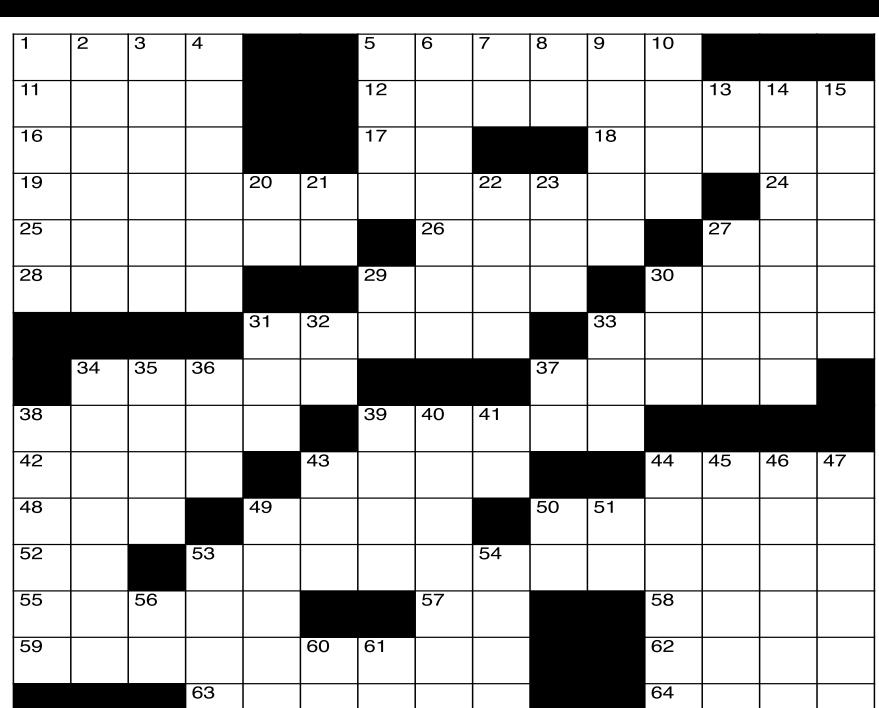
"Her heroism didn't stop at the site of the accident — it still exists today. She's still helping me," he said.

Ever since meeting in seventh grade, they've had a very close relationship, he said.

"She's my best friend," said Bruno. "We were close before the accident, but it's definitely brought us so much closer. Sydney even goes to my doctors' appointments and therapy — and she hasn't missed one surgery. She's a great friend, a great person, and a true hero."

"She deserves it. She must have been so scared that day — but she still made all the right choices."

— Antonio Bruno



CLUES ACROSS

- 1. Birds
- 5. Quills
- 11. Coniferous tree
- 12. Type of vessels
- 16. Used for baking or drying
- 17. Promotion of product or service
- 18. Many wombs
- 19. "On the Waterfront" actor
- 24. Air conditioning
- 25. Heart condition
- 26. Curved shapes
- 27. The 7th letter of the Greek alphabet
- 28. Let it stand
- 29. Famous actor
- 30. Mated
- 31. High and low are types of these
- 33. Marsupial
- 34. African nation (Fr.)
- 37. Huge

CLUES DOWN

- 1. Olfactory sensations
- 2. Bon _
- 3. Turn up
- 4. Bright
- 5. Thick piece of something
- 6. Cause to absorb water
- 7. Morning
- 8. 0 degrees C.
- 9. Dull, heavy sounds
- 10. Eisaku __, Japanese Prime Minister
- 13. Tellurium
- 14. In an angry way
- 15. Homopterous insect
- 20. Above
- 21. Sodium
- 22. Aoris' father (Greek myth.)
- 23. They ring receipts
- 27. Periods of history
- 29. South Dakota
- 30. Mammal genus
- 31. Scotland's longest river
- 32. Potato state
- 33. __ City, OK 74641
- 34. Connected with touch
- 38. Mountainous area in Puerto Rico
- 39. Crooked
- 42. Canadian law enforcers (abbr.)
- 43. Neat and smart in appearance
- 44. Intent
- 45. Reptile genus
- 46. A way to make full
- 47. Merchant
- 48. Manifesting approval
- 49. Homelostic music
- 50. Michigan
- 51. Melancholic music
- 52. Massachusetts
- 53. Membrane of the cornea
- 54. Exam
- 55. Commission
- 56. Old English letters
- 57. Sun god
- 58. Portuguese parish
- 59. Calendar month
- 60. Aromatic oil
- 61. Not down
- 62. Mister
- 63. Barium

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Public Safety

POLICE LOG

The Agawam Police Department responded to 295 calls for service from March 7 to March 14. The department recorded four arrests in its public log. Those arrested will appear at a future date in Westfield District Court and are innocent until proven guilty.

Tuesday, March 8

Jack L. Taylor, 21, of 31 Maynard St., East Longmeadow, was arrested on charges of operating under the influence of liquor, negligent operation of a motor vehicle, marked lanes violation, speeding, and possession of an open container of alcohol in motor vehicle.

Wednesday, March 9

Gabrielle Duval, 26, of 81 Cherry St., Feeding Hills, was arrested on a default warrant.

FIRE LOG

The Agawam Fire Department responded to 56 EMS calls from March 1 to March 7, and the following emergency response calls.

On March 1 at 8:56 a.m., the department responded to Main Street for motor vehicle accident with no injuries.

On March 1 at 9:04 a.m., the department responded to Castle Hills Road for carbon monoxide detector activation, no CO.

On March 1 at 3:49 p.m., the department responded to Regency Park Drive for arcing, shorted electrical equipment.

On March 1 at 4:55 p.m., the department responded to S. West Street for brush or brush-and-grass mixture fire.

On March 1 at 4:55 p.m., the department responded to S. West Street for brush and brush-and-grass mixture fire.

On March 1 at 6:57 p.m., the department responded to Springfield Street for lockout.

On March 2 at 5:57 a.m., the department responded to Springfield Street for lockout.

On March 4 at 1:09 p.m., the department responded to Bowles Road for false alarm or false call, other.

Thursday, March 10

Lynaire Louise Stanton, 54, of 109 S. Grand St., W. Suffield, Conn., was arrested on charges of marked lanes violation, operating a motor vehicle under the influence of alcohol, operating a motor vehicle negligently as to endanger the public, and resisting arrest.

Saturday, March 12

Diamond G. Mohown-Fee, 38, of 101 Washington St., Springfield, was arrested on charges of license not in possession, operating motor vehicle with license revoked, registration not in possession, and possession of Class B drug.

Boldyga, Humason support law to combat opioid addiction

BOSTON — Both of Agawam's state legislators, state Sen. Don Humason and state Rep. Nicolas Boldyga, joined their Senate and House colleagues this month in approving new laws to enhance substance abuse intervention, prevention and education efforts, including the creation of a framework to evaluate and treat patients who present in emergency rooms with an apparent overdose.

The final version of the law passed the House on March 9, the Senate the next day, and was signed by Gov. Charlie Baker on March 14.

The new emergency room procedure, which will be covered by insurance, is designed to ensure the proper assessment and discharge of patients who seek voluntary treatment. If a patient refuses treatment, information on health and community resources will be provided. This framework reflects the 2012 University of Miami Medical School findings that voluntary treatment is more effective and affordable than involuntary commitment.

"Far too many families have been affected by this awful epidemic, and I am proud to support this legislation that will empower the individuals, organizations, and municipalities who are confronting the crisis head on," said Humason, a Westfield Republican. "The bill we are sending to the governor will expand access to treatment options, support increased prevention efforts, and strengthen the tools we can use to combat this trend."

"I am happy that we were able to get a bill to the governor's desk to address the growing opioid crisis in the commonwealth," said Boldyga, a Southwick Republican. "We have all been impacted by this epidemic, and I am glad that we took action to address one of the key areas where addiction can start. This is just the first step in addressing this widespread outbreak of addiction throughout the commonwealth."

The law limits first-time opiate prescriptions to seven days for adults and all opiate

prescriptions for minors to seven days, with exceptions for chronic pain management, cancer and palliative care. Practitioners must now check the prescription monitoring program each time they prescribe any opiate and correspondingly note that in the patient's medical records.

The law will also allow patients to include a directive in their records that they shall not be offered opiates. It also provides the option of a "partial fill" which allows patients to request a lesser amount than indicated on the script; requires that contact information for all insurers be posted on the bed-finder tool website and updates the law to ensure the site is available 24 hours a day; requires that patients being discharged from substance addiction receive information on all FDA-approved medication-assisted therapies; ensures civil-liability protection for individuals who administer Narcan; requires manufacturers of controlled substances in Massachusetts to participate in either a drug stewardship program; and requires medical practitioners to receive training in effective pain management and the risks of abuse and addiction associated with opioid medication before obtaining or renewing their license; and requires all public schools to conduct a verbal substance abuse screening in two grade levels.

This legislation requires the Health Policy Commission to conduct a study on access to dual-diagnosis treatment in Massachusetts for children, adolescents and adults. To help ensure parity between behavioral and physical health care, the legislation also requires insurance companies to report annually on their denied claims.

This legislation follows a 65.2 percent increase in substance addiction funding since fiscal 2012 and the landmark substance addiction law passed in 2014 which, for the first time, mandated detox and stabilization coverage. The two laws are intended to complement each other.

Fire Dept. to host blood drive March 25

The American Red Cross will hold a blood drive from noon to 6 p.m. Friday, March 25, at the Agawam Fire Department, 800 Main St.

March has been recognized as Red Cross Month by every U.S. president since 1943. Red Cross Month is a celebration of supporters who are the face of the Red

Cross in their communities, helping to prepare for and bringing help and hope after emergencies.

To make an appointment to donate blood, download the free Red Cross Blood Donor App, visit redcrossblood.org or call 800-733-2767.

Italian travel presentation April 10

SPRINGFIELD — The Italian Cultural Center has announced the second presentation in its new lecture series. "Travel Trips to Italy" will take place at 2 p.m. Sunday, April 10. The program will offer an information session to help people clarify questions they may have about traveling in Italy, learn about local customs, and receive advice on where to go and what to do.

Leading the information session will be Laura Albanese, one of the Italian language instructors at the cultural center. In addition to working with the cultural center, she teaches Italian at the University of

Hartford and at Bryant University. She has participated in three study abroad programs in Italy, spent nearly two years between her bachelor's and master's degrees teaching English in Italy and has traveled extensively throughout the country. Albanese will be joined by her husband, Michelangelo Murina, a native of Reggio Calabria, to answer questions.

There is an admission charge of \$5 for members and \$7 for non-members. Complimentary refreshments will be served after the lecture.

Humason will run for re-election

WESTFIELD — Don Humason, R-Westfield, announced last week that he will run this year for re-election as state senator.

He has represented the 2nd Hampden and Hampshire District, which includes Agawam, since 2013. The district consists of 11 cities and towns, stretching from Tolland to parts of Chicopee.

"It has been an honor and a privilege to work on behalf of the people of the 2nd Hampden and Hampshire, and I look forward to building on our accomplishments across the district with another term in the state Senate," said Humason. "I take the responsibility that has been entrusted to me by my constituents very



seriously, and I pride myself on serving the district as best as I can day in and day out."

Humason, 48, is serving in his second term as state senator for the district after winning the special election to replace former Sen. Mike Knapik in November 2013. He went on to win re-election to a full two-year term in the senate in November 2014.

Nomination papers in state races are due May 10. The state primary election is Sept. 8; the general election is Nov. 8.

For more information about the senator's campaign, visit www.DonHumason.org.



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Emergency Dentistry

We at The Dental Studio Associates feel very strongly about our role in our community. One of the things that we pride ourselves in is our ability to triage and/or treat any emergency in a timely manner. We make it one of our personal missions to assure that anyone having a dental emergency is seen within one business day of their call to our office. If you talk to our current patients you will find that we often are able to see them that very same day! We know that teeth don't wait for regular business hours, so we always have a doctor on call who can answer any of our patient's questions.

Thank you for helping us be a leader in our community's dental health!



Dr. Joseph Walz



Dr. Andrea Fallon



Dr. Julia Reilly

Easter Week services at Sacred Heart

Sacred Heart Church, 1103 Springfield St., Feeding Hills, has announced its schedule of Easter Week services.

Holy Thursday, March 24: 7 p.m., Mass of the Lord's Supper followed by the procession with the Blessed Sacrament through the church to the Altar of Repose in the All Saints Chapel. Solemn Adoration will continue in the chapel until 9 p.m.

Good Friday, March 25: Noon, Stations

of the Cross; 7 p.m. Solemn Celebration of the Lord's Passion and distribution of Holy Communion.

Holy Saturday, March 26: Noon, Blessing of the Easter food and children's Easter baskets in the Parish Center; 8 p.m., Great Vigil of Easter, the most important Mass of the entire church year.

Easter Sunday, March 27: Masses at 7:15 a.m., 8:30 a.m. and 11 a.m.

Chamber networking event April 6 open to all

WEST SPRINGFIELD — The West of the River Chamber of Commerce will present "Wicked Wednesday" from 5:30 to 7:30 p.m. Wednesday, April 6, at Red Tees/Stitches & Ink, 128 Myron St., West Springfield.

The event is free for Chamber members, \$10 for non-members, and is open to all. Non-members must pay at the door.

Wicked Wednesdays are monthly social

events, hosted by various businesses and restaurants, bringing members and non-members together to network in a relaxed atmosphere.

The West of the River Chamber serves Agawam and West Springfield. For more information, contact the Chamber at 413-426-3880 or info@westoftheriverchamber.com.



Animal Control Officer Allison Strong reminds dog owners that license renewals are due at the end of this month. TURLEY PUBLICATIONS PHOTOS BY MICHAEL J. BALLWAY

DOG ■ from page 1

Heart Trail along Main Street. Those tags will expire April 1.

Licensing requires showing proof that the dog's rabies vaccination is current. If applicable, proof must also be shown that the dog has been spayed or neutered. The cost for a one-year license is \$10 for a spayed or neutered dog, \$25 for an intact dog. After May 1, a late fee of \$10 will also apply.

If a dog is acquired or reaches six months of age after April 1, it must be registered at that time. All 2016 registrations, regardless

of when they are issued, will expire March 31, 2017.

The license application can also be printed from the Internet and mailed back with payment. Visit agawam.ma.us, click on "Public Safety," then "Animal Control Officer."

All dogs residing in Agawam are required to be registered and wear the tag on their collar. All dogs using the new Agawam Dog Park must display a license tag, from Agawam or from their home town.

Legals

AGAWAM ZONING BOARD OF APPEALS LEGAL ADVERTISEMENT

February 17, 2016

Notice is hereby given that the Agawam Zoning Board of Appeals will hold a public hearing at the Agawam Public Library, Community Room, 750 Cooper Street, Agawam, MA on **Monday, March 28, 2016 at 6:30 p.m.** for all parties interested in the appeal of Howard Kanegsberg and Marianne St. Andre, who are seeking a Special Permit in accordance with Section 180-7 (D), Section 180-69 (G5) and Section 180-71 of the

Town of Agawam's Zoning Ordinances to allow for the construction of a residential structure found to lie within the floodplain with less than the required frontage at the premises identified as 184 River Road.

Doreen Prouty, Chairperson
Agawam Board of Appeals
3/10/3/17/16

**Commonwealth of
Massachusetts
The Trial Court
Probate and Family Court
50 State Street
Springfield, MA 01103
Docket No. HD16P0448GD
In the matter of:**

**Earl Moss, Jr.
Of: Agawam, MA
RESPONDENT
Alleged Incapacitated
Person**

**CITATION GIVING
NOTICE OF PETITION
FOR APPOINTMENT OF
GUARDIAN FOR
INCAPACITATED
PERSON PURSUANT TO
G.L. c. 190B, §5-304**

To the named Respondent and all other interested persons, a petition has been filed by **Department of**

**Please check
the accuracy of
your legal notice
prior to submis-
sion (i.e., date,
time, spelling).
Also, be sure
the requested
publication date
coincides with
the purpose of the
notice, or as the
law demands.
Thank you.**

HOW TO SUBMIT LEGAL NOTICES

All legal notices to be published in the *Agawam Advertiser News* should be sent directly to klanier@turley.com. Karen Lanier processes all legal notices for this newspaper and can answer all of your questions regarding these notices. Please indicate the newspapers and publication date(s) for the notice(s) in the subject line of your email. For questions regarding coverage area, procedures or cost, please call Karen directly at 413-283-8393 x235.

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CHARTER ■ from page 1

cating now is a strong message from Agawam to our legislators about how serious and committed we are to supporting, enriching, and growing our public schools and maintaining our students in our home community," said Rua.

She added that "selective enrollment" allowed for charter school students means taxpayers fund a process that doesn't provide equal access for all students.

"This separate and unequal access system shouldn't be permitted to siphon public education tax dollars," Rua said.

Shelley Reed said the resolution sends a message to the governor and DESE that charter schools "take funding away from public schools and are not accountable to their local communities."

Reed added that other towns' school committees are passing similar resolutions.

"The more school committees that send resolutions, the more impact it may have," she said.

The committee's primary reason for opposing any charter school expansion is that the state's Chapter 70 money — education reimbursement to local districts — hasn't been 100 percent funded. According to the resolution, funding was at 63 percent in fiscal 2014, 55 percent in fiscal 2015 and 69 percent in the current fiscal year, which ends in June.

School Superintendent William Sapelli said funding charter schools with public money is a "huge" issue for local school districts because students who attend charter schools take with them a certain amount in state aid from their sending districts.

"The state has been taking a pot of money and spreading it a lot thinner. Lifting the cap to add 12 more charter schools each year would spread that money even thinner than it already is," he said.

The charter school issue is multi-faceted, he added, and goes beyond just funding, particularly with special education students.

"It's not a level playing field," Sapelli said. "Charter schools don't have a lot of students with special education issues, but local districts do. We educate all types of children — from less disabled students to severely disabled students who require specialized programs."

The resolution includes several findings from the state auditor following an audit of the Department of Elementary and Secondary Education in December 2014. Among the concerns about charter

schools raised by the audit and cited in the resolution:

- Charter schools educate fewer English Language Learners than district schools
- Charter schools have "serious enrollment problems," with significant losses of students by both number and percentage
- Charter schools "fail to fill empty seats" from the waitlist
- DESE has "failed to require or to disseminate adequate documentation" of "innovative programs, best practices, and models" at charter schools for replication in public schools
- DESE has been "inconsistent" in imposing conditions for some school charter renewals

The "lack of comparability" between charter schools and sending school districts presents significant barriers to determining whether higher MCAS performance at certain charter schools is due to "demographic differences or whether innovative practices have produced positive outcomes."

The resolution was approved without any debate, but several committee members later explained why they voted for it.

Long-term budget consequences

According to Carmino Mineo, increasing the number of charter schools will mean less funding for public schools. "It's important to think about the long-term consequences that would result if this legislation passes. I strongly oppose anything that could result in less funding for Agawam's schools."

Anthony Bonavita said he's "very concerned" about the impact more charter schools will have on Chapter 70 funds. He said it was important for the School Committee to voice its opinion before funding for future budgets occurs.

"There's a realistic limit as to how much the state and town will fund schools," he added. "Taxpayers will only go so far before saying 'stop.'

Sapelli said going on record against lifting the cap will make local legislators aware of how critical the issue is to Agawam. "This resolution makes it clear — and leaves no doubt — about how adamantly our School Committee opposes lifting the cap."

The first Massachusetts charter school opened in 1995. Today, about 70 schools operate under five-year charters granted by the state Board of Elementary and Secondary Education. They control their own budgets and can hire and fire teachers and staff, but must demonstrate good results within five years to maintain their charter.

Developmental Services of Springfield, MA in the above captioned matter alleging that **Earl Moss, Jr.** is in need of a Guardian and requesting that **Catherine Gallagher** of Worcester, MA (or some other suitable person) be appointed as Guardian to serve **Without Surety** on the bond.

The petition asks the court to determine that the Respondent is incapacitated, that the appointment of a Guardian is necessary, and that the proposed Guardian is appropriate. The petition is on file with this court and may contain a request for certain specific authority.

You have the right to object to this proceeding. If you wish to do so, you or your attorney must file a written appearance at this court on or before 10:00 a.m. on the return date of 04/08/2016. This day is NOT a hearing date, but a deadline date by which you have to file the written appearance if you object to the petition. If you fail to file the written appearance by the return date, action may be taken in this matter without further notice to you. In addition to

filing the written appearance, you or your attorney must file a written affidavit stating the specific facts and grounds of your objection within 30 days after the return date.

IMPORTANT NOTICE
The outcome of this proceeding may limit or completely take away the above-named person's right to make decisions about personal affairs or financial affairs or both. The above-named person has the right to ask for a lawyer. Anyone may make this request on behalf of the above-named person. If the above-named person cannot afford a lawyer, one may be appointed at State expense.

WITNESS, Hon. **Anne M Geoffrion**, First Justice of this Court.

Date: March 10, 2016

Suzanne T. Seguin
Register of Probate
3/17/16

LEGAL NOTICE

The Town of Agawam hereby invites sealed bids from qualified contractors for the Installation and Assembly of Playground Equipment purchased by the Town and preparation of the site for poured in place rubber sur-

facing also purchased by the Town at Wade Park located on Franklin St. Agawam, MA. A full bid package with specifications will be available beginning March 21, 2016 at 10:00 AM in the Procurement Office, 36 Main Street, Agawam, MA 01001 or by email to Procurement@agawam.ma.us. Sealed Bids will be received at the same location **until 2:00 PM on April 7, 2016** at which time they will be publicly opened and read aloud in the Procurement Conference Room. All bids must be accompanied by a bid deposit in an amount that is not less than five percent (5%) of the value of the bid in the form of a bid bond or certified, treasurer's or cashier's check issued by a responsible bank or trust company. 50% Payment Bond and Insurance Coverage are required at time of award. Wages are subject to minimum wage rates as per M.G.L. Chapter 149, Section 26-27H as amended. The Town will award the contract to the lowest responsible and eligible bidder as set forth in the bid package.

3/17/16

Out & About

OUR CALENDAR SECTION is intended to promote free events, or those that directly affect a volunteer-driven organization. Paid events that are not deemed benefits do not qualify. Non-charitable events that charge the public for profit are not allowed as we consider that paid advertising. The deadline to submit calendar items is Monday at noon. Send to the Agawam Advertiser News at aan@turley.com, fax to 413-786-8457, or mail to 23 Southwick St., Feeding Hills, MA 01030. We usually print at least one week prior to an event. The listings should be brief with only time, date, location, activity explanation and contact information.

Thursday, March 17

A LENTEN BOOK REFLECTION, "TESTIFY TO THE LIGHT," a spiritual biography of Andy Gustafson, at First Church of Christ, Congregational, 81 High St., Suffield, at 7 p.m. The study will be facilitated by the pastors of the church, the Rev. Bridget Fidler and the Rev. Diann Bailey. All are welcome. For information about the book, call the church office at 860-668-7223.

Saturday, March 19

AN ALL-CHURCH TAG SALE at the Agawam Congregational Church, 745 Main St., 9 a.m. to 2 p.m. The tag sale will include a bake sale, fresh popcorn, clothes and accessories, toys and games, books, kitchen articles, household items, furniture and more.

THE ROSARY SOCIETY OF HOLY TRINITY CHURCH bake sale, food sale and raffle in the Parish Center, 331 Elm St., Westfield on Saturday from 3 to 5:30 p.m. and Sunday from 7:30 a.m. to noon. A giant Chinese raffle will include gift certificates, gift baskets and other prizes for all ages. For more information, call 413-562-4514.

WESTFIELD EASTER EGG HUNT on the grounds of South Middle School, 30 W. Silver St. Children should line up at 1 p.m.; the hunt will begin promptly at 1:15. The Easter Bunny will arrive at 1:30 p.m. In case of rain, the egg hunt will be held at 1 p.m. Saturday, March 26.

Monday, March 21

DURHAM CALDWELL WILL BE THE GUEST SPEAKER at 7 p.m. at the Agawam Library, 750 Cooper St., where he will read from his newest book, "An Unusual Arrangement." A discussion period will follow the readings. "An Unusual Arrangement," as well as Caldwell's earlier books, will be on sale at discounted prices.

Wednesday, March 23

SCHOLA NOVA, ARTISTS IN RESIDENCE at Our Lady of the Valley Church, Easthampton, will participate in Tenebrae services at 7 p.m. at Saint Andrew's Episcopal Church, 335 Longmeadow St., Longmeadow. The public is invited to attend this solemn service.

Thursday, March 24

THE SPRINGFIELD MUSEUMS AT THE QUADRANGLE will present "Vincent: A Portrait by the Postman Roulin" featuring author and actor Ted Zalewski, at 12:15 in the Museum of Fine Arts at 21 Edwards St., Springfield. Admission is \$4 (\$2 for museum members). Parking is free. For information, call (413) 263-6800, ext. 488.

Friday, March 25

AMERICAN RED CROSS BLOOD DRIVE from noon to 6 p.m. at the Agawam Fire Department, 800 Main St. To make an appointment, download the free Red Cross Blood Donor App, visit redcrossblood.org or call 800-

733-2767.

Friday, April 1

NORTH AMERICAN ALPACA SHOW in the Mallary Complex on the grounds of the Big E, 1305 Memorial Ave., West Springfield from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. today, 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. tomorrow. Free admission.

'CIAO, PROFESSORE!' BY LINA WERTMULLER at the Italian Cultural Center of Western Mass., 56 Margaret St., Springfield, as part of its "Friday Night at the Italian Cinema" series. Doors open at 6 p.m., followed by the movie at 6:30 p.m. Free for ICC members; \$5 donation for non-members.

Sunday, April 3

SPRINGFIELD NATIONAL COLLEGE FAIR in the Young Building on the grounds of the Big E, 1305 Memorial Ave., West Springfield today from 1 to 4 p.m., tomorrow from 9 to 11:30 a.m. Free admission.

Friday, April 8

THE AGAWAM CULTURAL COUNCIL will host Rick Spencer, internationally recognized folk singer, songwriter, and historian best known for his series of theme-based historical music programs, beginning at 7 p.m. at the Agawam Public Library as part of the its popular Applause Series. It is free and open to the public.

SPRING FLING DOG SHOW & OBEDIENCE TRIAL in the Better Living Center on the grounds of the Big E, 1305 Memorial Ave., West Springfield from 8 a.m. to 4 p.m. Free admission.

Saturday, April 9

THE SUFFIELD BAPTIST CHURCH, 100 N. Main St., Suffield, will host its "Handbell Choir & Friends" concert at 3 p.m. An opportunity to donate to a free will offering to support the Music Ministry will be available. For more information, contact the church office at 860-668-1661, or email office@secondbaptistsuffield.org.

TROY KENNEL CLUB DOG SHOW in the Better Living Center on the grounds of the Big E, 1305 Memorial Ave., West Springfield from 7 a.m. to 5 p.m. Free admission.

Sunday, April 10

THE WEST SPRINGFIELD COIN CLUB will meet at 7 p.m. in the Church of the Good Shepherd, 214 Elm St., West Springfield. A special coin topic will be presented and discussed. Refreshments available. Guests welcome. For more information, call Peter Setian at 413-596-9871.

TRAP FALLS KENNEL CLUB DOG SHOW in the Better Living Center on the grounds of the Big E, 1305 Memorial Ave., West Springfield. Free admission.

Wednesday, April 13

AGAWAM ADDICTION FORUM at the Roberta G. Doring School Auditorium, 68 Main St., Agawam. Open house from 6 to 7 p.m. followed by the forum from 7 to 9 p.m. will include specialists, professionals and speakers. Featured guests will include Tracy Wilkie of the Shane Foundation and Kristin Trauschke of Agawam Against Addiction. For more information, visit Facebook.com/groups/AgawamAgainstAddiction.

THE ELM-BELCHER MASONIC LODGE, 53 River St., Agawam offers an all-you-can-eat spaghetti supper at

a cost of \$8 for adults, \$4 for children. The public is welcome.

Thursday, April 14

J. POLEP DISTRIBUTION SERVICES TRADE SHOW in the Better Living Center on the grounds of the Big E, 1305 Memorial Ave., West Springfield. No charge.

Friday, April 15

NORTHEAST REINING HORSE SHOW in the Coliseum on the grounds of the Big E, 1305 Memorial Ave., West Springfield from 8 a.m. to 10 p.m. Free admission.

Wednesday, April 20

UPHA-14 SPRING PREMIER HORSE SHOW in the Coliseum on the grounds of the Big E, 1305 Memorial Ave., West Springfield today through Saturday from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. and 6:30 to 9 p.m. Free admission.

Friday, April 22

NEW ENGLAND SPRING CLASSIC DOG SHOWS today through Sunday in Mallary East and Mallary West on the grounds of the Big E, 1305 Memorial Ave., West Springfield from 7 a.m. to 7 p.m. Free admission.

Sunday, April 24

FLUTIST TIMOTHY MACRI will open the spring/summer concert series at Second Baptist Church, 100 N. Main St., Suffield with a performance at 3 p.m.

Friday, May 20

FRIENDS OF THE AGAWAM PUBLIC LIBRARY BOOK SALE from 2-5 p.m., \$3 for the public, free for Friends members; Saturday from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. at no charge for all. All proceeds to benefit library programs.

ONGOING

THE UPSTAIRS GALLERY AND GLASS CASES at the Agawam Public Library contain 68 photos that were juried into the Friends of the Agawam Public Library Sixth Open Juried Photography Show. The show will run to Feb. 26. Brochures are available in the gallery area at the library that describe the photographs.

GRANDPARENT'S PLAYGROUP Wednesdays, 9:30 a.m. to 11 a.m., at St. David's Church, 699 Springfield St., Feeding Hills. This free infant and toddler playgroup features music and movement, fostering children's interactions and sharing skills. Open to all grandparents and their grandchildren. Follows school schedule.

MOM 2 MOM takes place the second Tuesday of every month October through June, 9:30 to 11 a.m. at Agawam Congregational Church, 745 Main St. A round-table discussion hosted by a local "veteran" mom, this is a great way to have further conversation on recent café themes and parent education events, celebrate parenting and receive encouragement for the trials.

THE AGAWAM ST. PATRICK COMMITTEE meets the third Wednesday of each month, September through June, at 6:30 p.m. at St. John the Evangelist Rectory conference room, 833 Main St., Agawam. For information on how to join, call Vera Conway at 413-786-3247 or email Rosemary Sandlin at rosemarysandlin@gmail.com.

ADULT DROP-IN SIT AND KNIT meets every Tuesday from 1-3 p.m. at the Agawam Public Library, 750 Cooper St. No registration needed.

AGAWAM UNITED METHODIST CHURCH, 459 Mill St., Agawam, offers "Crochet Club" every other Tuesday from 7 to 8:30 p.m. This club is open to all needle-workers, including crocheters, knitters, quilters, and embroiderers. For more information, call 413-786-7991.

A BREAST CANCER AND MASTECTOMY SUPPORT GROUP meets the fourth Tuesday of each month from 6 to 7:15 p.m. at 2 South Bridge Drive, Suite 1B, Agawam. Registration is required by calling 413-789-0200 or online at www.survivorjourneys.org.

AN ALL CANCER SUPPORT GROUP meets the first Tuesday of each month from 6 to 7 p.m. at Sacred Heart Parish Center, 1061 Springfield St., Feeding Hills. Registration is required by calling 413-789-0200 or online at www.survivorjourneys.org.

Agawam Senior Center

Lunch Menu

Monday, March 21: Shepherd's pie, garden salad, bananas.

Tuesday, March 22: Chicken parmesan, ziti with extra sauce, diced pears.

Wednesday, March 23: Ham dinner, roasted sweet potatoes, peas, pudding.

Thursday, March 24: Lasagna and meat sauce, cucumber salad, baked good.

Friday, March 25: Corn chowder, tuna on whole-wheat, lettuce and tomato, mixed fruit.

Calendar of Events

Monday, March 21: 8 a.m., weight training; 8:15 a.m., yoga; 9 a.m., Painting Club; 9:30 a.m., line dancing; 11:30 a.m., Gentle Yoga; 1 p.m., bingo; 2 p.m., ballroom dance with Richie Mitnick; 5:30 p.m., Zumba Gold.

Tuesday, March 22: 9 a.m., exercise, knitting class, sewing class; 9:30 a.m., S.H.I.N.E.; 10 a.m.,

Computer Tech Group meets; 12:30 p.m., mah jongg, movie, ladies billiards; 1 p.m., Mexican Train Game; 3 p.m., COA meeting; 6 p.m., beginner line dance, evening sewing, art class with Barbara Cohen.

Wednesday, March 23: 8 a.m., weight training; 8:15 a.m., yoga; 9:45 a.m., Gentle Yoga; 12:30 p.m., bridge; 1:30 p.m., Golden Age Club Chapter 1 meeting; 5:30 p.m., Zumba Gold; 6:30 p.m., Turnverein chorus.

Thursday, March 24: 8:30 a.m., AARP tax assistance; 9 a.m., exercise, 9:30 a.m., quilting; 10 a.m., line dancing; 12:30 p.m., bridge; 1 p.m., pitch, free blood pressure clinic with nurse Sherry; 1:30 p.m., Melody Band practice; 6 p.m., cancer support group; 6:30 p.m., evening pitch, evening line dancing.

Friday, March 25: Good Friday. Senior Center open. 8 a.m., yoga; 9:15 a.m., all media art class; 10 a.m., tai chi; noon, canasta; 1 p.m., pitch, cribbage; 4 p.m., poker.

Easter week services at United Methodist Church

Agawam United Methodist Church, 459 Mill St., Feeding Hills, has announced the following Easter week schedule of services.

March 24: 7 p.m., Maundy Thursday worship service

March 25: 7 p.m., Good Friday worship service

March 27: 10 a.m., Easter Sunday Worship Service

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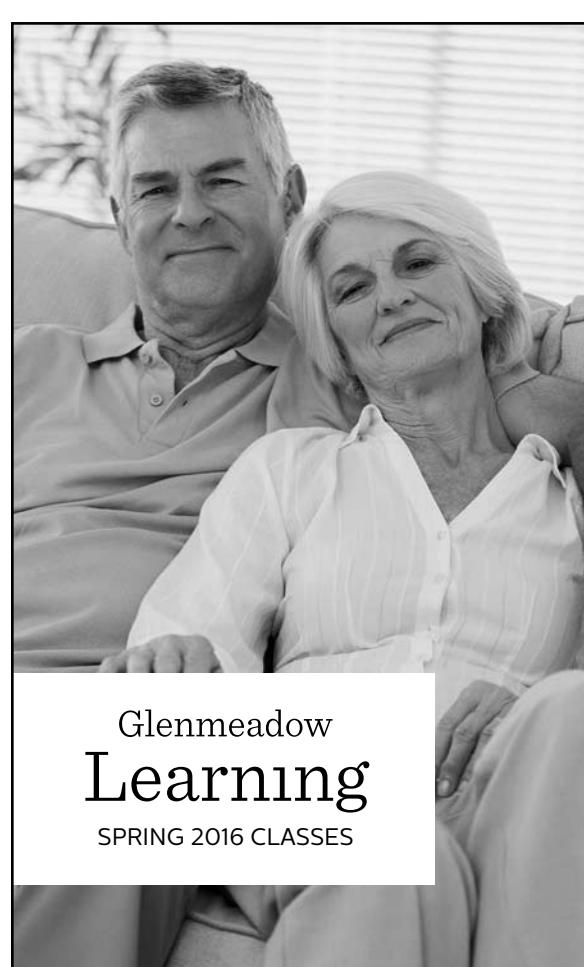
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Informed Giving: A Look at Philanthropy's Role in Estate Planning

Wednesday, March 30, 10 a.m.–noon
Longmeadow Country Club
400 Shaker Road, Longmeadow, MA

In partnership with the Community Foundation of Western Massachusetts, we will offer a fresh look at charitable giving as part of a well-rounded estate plan. Our panelists will help you identify your philanthropic values and outline the legal and financial mechanisms through which you can donate.

Programs are free and open to the public, but space is limited and reservations are required. To enroll, call 413.567.7800 or e-mail learning@glenmeadow.org. Visit glenmeadow.org/learning.



Glenmeadow

Youth Jr. High student to compete at state geo bee

CHICOPEE — Elms College will welcome 100 students for the Massachusetts Geography Bee on Friday, April 1. Among the students who will compete is Zachary Quick, an eighth grader at Agawam Junior High School.

The winner of this statewide competition will compete in the National Geographic Bee in Washington, D.C., in May, where the grand prize is a \$50,000 college scholarship and all-expenses-paid trip to the Galapagos Islands.

"This is the second level of the National Geographic Bee competition, which is now in its 27th year," said Sarah Duncan, the state bee coordinator for Massachusetts. "Bees were held in schools with fourth through eighth grade students throughout the state to determine each school's bee winner."

The school-level winners then took a test and submitted it to the National Geographic Society; the students with the top 100 test scores in each state, as well as the District of Columbia, Department of Defense Dependent Schools and U.S. territories, were invited to compete at the state level. The National Geographic Bee sponsors competitions in every state as well as the final nationwide contest.



Zachary Quick, Agawam's entrant in the state Geography Bee to be held April 1, poses with his social studies teacher Karen Albano and prizes from the Agawam Junior High School Geography Bee, which he won in December. FILE PHOTO BY MIKE LYDICK

In the morning of April 1, students will then be split up into individual competition rooms on the Elms campus, where the field will be winnowed to the top 10 finalists. The event will culminate in a session that will run from approximately 1:15 to

2:30 p.m., when the finalists will compete in Veritas Auditorium in Berchmans Hall. At that time, the Massachusetts State Geography Bee winner will be chosen. The finalist portion of the event is free and open to the public.

"I think that the public will be in awe of the vast knowledge these students have about the world at such a young age," Duncan said. "As an audience member, it is always fun to follow along to see how much you know."

The state winner will receive \$100, a copy of the book "The National Parks," and a trip to Washington, D.C., to represent Massachusetts in the national finals, which will be held at National Geographic Society headquarters May 22-25.

Throughout the day, geography-related stations will be set up on campus for competitors, family members and the general public to visit. EarthView, a large inflatable globe that people can go inside, will be installed in Berchmans Gym, as will a large world floor map from National Geographic.

This is the first time the bee will be held at a college or university; 1967 Elms alumna Arlene Kowal is co-coordinator of the Massachusetts Geographic Alliance, which holds teacher workshops on campus, and she felt that Elms would be a good venue. Other Elms alumni have been recruited to serve as timekeepers, scorekeepers and tour guides.

School Lunch

AGAWAM HIGH SCHOOL

The Agawam High School lunch menu is posted on the school's website.

AGAWAM JUNIOR HIGH SCHOOL ROBERTA G. DOERING SCHOOL AGAWAM ELEMENTARY SCHOOLS

Monday, March 21: Barbecue rib on hoagie, low-fat Doritos, carrots, fresh and chilled fruit.
Tuesday, March 22: French toast sticks, hash browns, pork sausage links (Agawam Junior High), sliced ham (Roberta Doering and elementary school), baked apples, orange juice.
Wednesday, March 23: Spaghetti with meat sauce, garlic knot, seasoned corn, fresh and chilled fruit.
Thursday, March 24: Individual pizza rounds, salad with light dressing, fresh and chilled fruit, cookie.

Friday, March 25: Good Friday. No school.

AGAWAM JUNIOR HIGH SCHOOL BREAKFAST MENU ELEMENTARY BREAKFAST MENU

Monday, March 21: Assorted low-sugar cereal, 1 percent low-fat milk, cinnamon graham crackers, mozzarella cheese string, juice.
Tuesday, March 22: Assorted low-sugar cereal, 1 percent low-fat milk, assorted nutri-grain bars, mozzarella cheese string, juice.
Wednesday, March 23: Assorted low-sugar cereal, 1 percent low-fat milk, assorted muffins, mozzarella cheese string, juice.
Thursday, March 24: Assorted low-sugar cereal, 1 percent low-fat milk, assorted Trix yogurt, mozzarella cheese string, juice.
Friday, March 25: Good Friday. No school.

Agawam High School Counseling bulletin

College acceptances

Kayla DeBarros — University of Central Florida; Brandon Ledoux — Holyoke Community College; Natalie Rauh — College of Charleston; Timothy Regnier — Western New England University; Brandon Woodford — U.S. Coast Guard.

Scholarship information

Students should see their counselor or visit the websites for more information or an application: Mark Bavis Leadership Foundation; Dunkin' Donuts Scholarship Program; The Holyoke Community College Foundation; The Professional Women in Construction — Connecticut Chapter; Springfield Alumnae Chapter of Delta Sigma Theta Sorority, Inc.; Matthews Massachusetts Memorial Fund; Janice M. Scott Memorial Scholarship Fund; Westfield River Valley Detachment; The Pascal A. Deliso Scholarship; Italian Cultural Center of Western Massachusetts; Valley Press Club; Edward P. Boland Scholarship; American College Foundation; Dolly Lancaster Scholarship; Massachusetts Broadcasters Association Student Broadcaster Scholarship; Jewish Endowment Fund; Rebekah Assembly of Massachusetts; Pioneer Valley Women's Running Club; Warrior Thunder Founda-

tion; 2016 Student View Scholarship Program; Holyoke Credit Union Scholarship Program; Hood Milk Sportsmanship Scholarship; Red Pine Scholarship; Yawkey Scholars Program; The Phillips Scholarship Fund; The Michael Yasick ADHD Scholarship by Shire; Big Y Scholarship; John F. Kennedy Library Foundation; Skidmore College Filene Music Scholarship Competition; Westfield-West Springfield Elks Lodge 1481; Naval Reserve Officers Training Corps; Abbott & Fenner Business Consultants; Jack Kent Cooke Foundation; American Legion High School Oratorical Scholarship; GE-Reagan Foundation Scholarship; The Henry David Thoreau Foundation; Aspiring Fashion Professional Scholarship; Aspiring Animation Professional Scholarship; Aspiring Nurse Scholarship; Massachusetts Association of Women in Law Enforcement.

Meritaid.com: On this free website, students can complete a profile and then access the college merit scholarships that match their profile. This organization does not sell its email lists to third parties. The site includes a comprehensive directory of merit scholarships and academic scholarships across the country.

Did You Know: The University of Michigan offers 260 different majors.



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Carpenali scholarship applications available

WEST SPRINGFIELD — The Ramapogue Historical Society will again give a \$500 Rose Carpenali Award to an Agawam or West Springfield high school senior this year.

The scholarship is sponsored by George Stancil and Terry DeCaro in memory of DeCaro's aunt. Rose Carpenali was the daughter of immigrant parents from Italy who settled in Agawam, establishing the Carpenali Farm on Suffield Street.

Application is open to high school seniors in Agawam or West Springfield planning to attend a two-year or four-year college with major emphasis of study in a math or science field and an interest in history. Strong academic record and involvement in community service affairs is required.

Application forms are available in the guidance offices of local public and private secondary schools or by contacting Norleen Tassinari, Eastern States Exposition, 1305 Memorial Ave., West Springfield, at 413-205-5037 or by email at ntassinari@TheBigE.com. Deadline for submission is April 15.

The awards will be presented on May 10 at the Annual Meeting of the Ramapogue Historical Society, at 5:45 p.m. at the Mittenague United Methodist Church, 800 Amostown Road, West Springfield.

The Ramapogue Historical Society owns and maintains the Josiah Day House on Park Street in West Springfield and presents historical programs and events throughout the year.

Cheerleading signups Wednesday, March 23

Signups for the Agawam Youth Cheerleading's 2016 fall season will take place Wednesday, March 23, from 6 to 8 p.m., at the Agawam Public Library, 750 Cooper St. The signups are open to students entering grades 3 through 8.

Easter egg hunt is on for Saturday

The town of Agawam Easter Egg Hunt, sponsored by the Agawam Parks and Recreation Department, the Agawam Lions Club and the Agawam Rotary Club, is scheduled for Saturday, March 19, at 11 a.m. The event will take place at School Street Park. Cost is \$5 per family or car.

Eggs will be available in three age-appropriate areas — ages 4 and younger, 5-7, and 8 and older — with special prizes in each area. Participants should bring a basket or bag to collect eggs.

Parking will be permitted in both the Corey Street and School Street lots. Due to limited parking, only 200 families or cars will be permitted into the park. Cars will not be permitted into the park without the pink registration copy.

Registration may be completed at the Parks and Recreation Office, 1000 Suffield St., Agawam. In the event of inclement weather, the egg hunt will be held Saturday, March 26, rain or shine.

Mighty Mechanics close season with Motivate Award

The Mighty Mechanics, an extracurricular Agawam STEM robotics team with primarily junior high students, has finished the 2015-16 season, and was awarded the Motivate Award. The Motivate Award is a judged award recognizing teamwork and sharing STEM enthusiasm within the community.

"I am so proud of this team and their efforts individually and as a true team," said Jay Cameron, head coach.

The season started over the summer with a work crew neaten up the team's workspace and inventorying robot hardware. Just before the season started, the team had an opportunity to explore computer-aided design and Java programming through coach-facilitated training sessions.

The season kicked off Sept. 12. The team set reasonable incremental goals for each of the competitions, which were spaced out about every four weeks. After every competition, the team did a group evaluation of the event, and determined a prioritized to-do list for the next event. With support from parents and mentors, the students worked hard to achieve their next goals. The final push came in February in preparation for the league championship with the team motto, "Go big or go home." The team pushed the limits of hardware and software, and dedicated many hours to turn the goals into reality. In total, the 11 students collectively logged nearly 1,000

hours of meeting time over the six-month season.

The final product that was prepared for the championship had many new features incorporated into it, designed to maximize the match scores. However, there were several technological glitches that caused performance issues during the matches, including a non-operational robot. Never dismayed, the students feverishly wrapped the chassis with non-conductive tape, swapped out the Droid phone robot "brain" and re-routed communications and power wires in an effort to mitigate the issues. The team never stopped cheering during their match. In the end, despite technology failures, the team finished in the middle of the pack in arguably the toughest league in the state.

The team had a potluck party to celebrate all its successes, including individual certificates being given out to each student and active parents and mentors. The team will be doing some less-intensive STEM activities this spring, and will be inviting rising seventh-graders to join them in these explorations.

Mighty Mechanics sponsors included platinum sponsor Hartford Steam Boiler; gold, AutoKraft, Teddy Bear Pools & Spas, Alstom and PTC; silver, Allied Floor & Paint, Beacon Protection, OMG, Specialty Bolt & Screw, Thermal Dynamix and Westfield Bank; and bronze, MTG and Shades on Wheels.



The team robot proudly displays the logos of the team's platinum and gold sponsors.



Student programmers Austin Larrabee and Christian Rua with Mentor Amanda Bessette work on software tweaks during the February league championship.



Mighty Mechanics team members Kannon Grover, Zao Gill and Aidan Chan perform electrical diagnostics with a multimeter.



Proud award winners Zao Gill, Aidan Chan, Christian Rua, Austin Larrabee, Kannon Grover, Adam Krause, Vinnie Bianco and Skylar Thies are pictured with Mighty Mechanics' 2015-16 robot. Not pictured are Ethan Chan, Zack Quick and Bobby Taylor. SUBMITTED PHOTOS



And the fans go wild! Cheering on the Mighty Mechanics are, front row, assistant coach Charlene Cameron, parent Wincy Chan, grandparents Cis and Bob Nowacki; second row, head coach Jay Cameron, parent Chris Nowacki, mentor Amanda Bessette, parent Wendy Rua and team member Austin Larrabee; and top row, parents Doug Thies, Alan Meunier and Jeff Krause, team members Zao Gill and Adam Krause, parent Katy Krause and sibling Matthew Krause.



The robot "skyhook" is successfully deployed on the practice field, a huge engineering and manufacturing challenge to add to the robot in only three weeks before the championship.

St. David's Episcopal Church
699 Springfield St., Feeding Hills, MA 01030

Holy Week and Easter Services

Sunday, March 20th
Palm Sunday Services:
8:00 a.m. Traditional Service with Holy Communion and Palms
10:00 a.m. Contemporary Service with Holy Communion and Palms

Thursday, March 24th
Maundy Thursday Service
7:00 p.m. with Holy Communion

Friday, March 25th
Children's Easter Activities
9:30 a.m. – 11:30 a.m. includes: Children's Stations of the Cross followed by a Children's Easter egg hunt

Other Good Friday Offerings:
6:30 p.m. Stations of the Cross
7:00 p.m. Good Friday Service

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*tax and gratuity not included

Library food drive to benefit Open Pantry

The Agawam Public Library is collecting nonperishable food items through March 31. The donations will be brought to the Open Pantry in Springfield. Items always in demand include tuna fish, rice, spaghetti sauce, peanut butter, kids' snacks, canned pasta, meal helpers, baby food, noodles, canned vegetables and fruits. There is a basket for donations across from the Circulation Desk at the library.



The Agawam Public Library is holding a food drive to benefit the Open Pantry in Springfield now through March 31. SUBMITTED PHOTO

For more information, call the Children's Room at the Agawam Public Library, 750 Cooper St., at 413-789-1550, ext. 3, or visit www.agawamlibrary.org.

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COLLEEN ■ from page 1

eral of her aunt's photos while spending time in her aunt's basement.

"As we descended down the stairs, we were greeted with a giant framed photo of my aunt adorned in green and wearing a massive crown," Elizabeth said.

Elizabeth never tried on her aunt's crown as a child, but did play some dress-up with Gould's gown from 2004 after she applied to take part in the Agawam's contest.

The parade has also been a family tradition, and Elizabeth and her family regularly watch from a relative's house along the parade route in Holyoke.

"We go all-out," she said. "We have food and drinks and watch the parade together."

She grew up steeped in her Irish heritage. Her mom's clan — the Murphys — includes 30 cousins for Elizabeth. She said the family gets together regularly, cooks tons of food, and has a close bond based on Irish traditions. Despite her lifelong connection with the Holyoke parade, Elizabeth waited until she was 20 years old to enter the Colleen competition. Elizabeth said she had dreamed of one day wearing a crown herself, but lost the excitement while in high school. Part of the reason was her Italian last name, from her father.

"I never thought I'd make it because of my darker Italian complexion and my obviously long last name," she said. "I lost the excitement to compete when I was in high school because of this lack of confidence in my identity."

Her family still wanted her to compete, but she fought some health issues her senior year of high school, then



Holyoke Grand Colleen Sheila Gould and court member Elizabeth Lafond Coppez dance with the Mummers at the 2004 St. Patrick's Day parade. SUBMITTED PHOTO

spent the two years of college in South Carolina. She then struggled with the notion that she was "too old" to compete — although the contest is open to young women up to age 22, the past five winners have all been high schoolers — but realized the importance of the Colleen court to herself and her family.

"I decided that it's never too late, and that I should do this while I have the chance, or regret missing out on the opportunity," said Elizabeth.

Both her mother and aunt were very proud to see Elizabeth compete and win.

Some things have changed in the dozen years since Gould was Holyoke's Grand Colleen, but much of it is still the same.

"Each parade committee does things a little bit different," said Gould. "But all of the groups have always put a great emphasis on education, poise, community involvement and Irish heritage."

Elizabeth's mother, Roseanne (Murphy) Caracciolo, said she applied for the contest while a sophomore at Elms College. She loved her experience of being on the float, and said her entire court was made to feel like the colleen.

She wanted to see the honor pass to the next generation in the Murphy family.

"My hopes and dreams all landed on my precious daughter Elizabeth, as I only had one girl," said Roseanne, who also has four sons. She said the parade is a big event for her and her family and it will be even better this year.

"The parade is the highlight of the year for us, even though we do not live in Holyoke," said Roseanne. "Now my Elizabeth has the honor that I experienced so long ago. What more could a mother from Holyoke ask? I am truly blessed with this city, my experiences, and my family."

Know to go

• The Holyoke St. Patrick's Day Parade is this Sunday on the streets of Holyoke.

• Agawam participants include award winners, the Colleen and court, town officials, the Fire Department and the Marching Mohawks band from Agawam High School.

• The parade steps off at 11 a.m. Sunday, March 20, from the K-Mart plaza on Route 5. It follows Northampton, Beech, Appleton and High streets to downtown Holyoke.

• The parade is one of the largest Irish celebrations in the country, so give yourself plenty of time to get through traffic and to find parking.

• To view the parade from the comfort of home, tune in to WGBY-TV 57 at noon for a live broadcast.



Elizabeth Caracciolo with her parents, Jerry and Roseanne Caracciolo, and brother Anthony. SUBMITTED PHOTO

SPORTS

FOOTBALL

Changes coming to high school football

Agawam set to move to Division 2

By Gregory A. Scibelli
gscibelli@turley.com

REGION – Football is undergoing major changes again, and it is possible these changes could leave some teams on the outside of a playoff picture looking in.

A committee in Western Massachusetts is going through the process of realigning football divisions from the six that were in

place just a few years ago.

Now, eight divisions (1, 1A, 2, 2A, 3, 3A, 4, and 4A) have been created by the Massachusetts Interscholastic Athletic Association. Western Massachusetts will have teams in four of those divisions.

The majority of the task of realigning the teams has fallen on Longmeadow High School Athletics Director Michael Capotosto.

He said the task is not over yet. While the division alignments have been approved, the Pioneer Valley Interscholastic Athletic Conference must still agree on the alignment of regional leagues.

Capotosto said that has been the taller task and has opened the discussion about expansion of the playoffs.

He explained that while there are more than 100 teams in Eastern Massachusetts, the western end has just 40 teams split among

four of the eight divisions. Division 2, which includes some of the largest schools in the region, has teams like Central, Holyoke, West Springfield, Minnechaug Regional, Putnam, and Westfield. But due to new enrollment numbers, teams like Agawam, Chicopee Comp, Amherst, and Commerce have been added.

The division determines what playoff a team could enter. However, with the Walker System currently determining part of how

playoff teams are ranked, the fear among many coaches and athletic directors is that a team like Amherst, which has a weaker schedule, could be left out of the playoffs even with a good season. This is because more teams in Division 2 play in the top league – the AA Conference.

“It’s one of those things we are trying to sort through right now,” said Capotosto.

FOOTBALL | page 14



Agawam makes trip to Szlats

The Agawam 7/8A Szlats basketball team plays in a game against Ludlow last Wednesday night at Chicopee High School. The team participates in the Suburban League during their regular season, then assembles to participate in the tournament. TURLEY PUBLICATIONS PHOTOS BY GREGORY A. SCIBELLI



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Sports

Lungarini opens season with hat trick

By Gregory A. Scibelli
gscibelli@turley.com

AGAWAM – While points can come seven at a time for high school standouts, a seven-point game in college is much harder to come by.

But Agawam native and current Westfield State University native Samantha Lungarini managed to achieve that feat in just her first game of the season for the Owls women's lacrosse team as they suffered a 10-9 loss against Western New England University on March 1.

Lungarini did not spend a lot of time with the Brownies, but caught on to the Owls as a freshman in college and has been playing ever since.

She opened up her final season with a three-goal, four-assist performance.

"It was such a great way to start the regular season off," said Lungarini. "We made such a great comeback in the game, too. We just came up a bit short."

She said the Owls actually trailed 9-3 at one point, but scored six of the final seven goals in the game. Unfortunately, the one



Samantha Lungarini

goal WNE scored made the difference in the game.

Lungarini, an attacker, said she is hoping to be part of an Owls team that will go to the Conference Championship and beyond this year.

"I have had a great time playing in college and I am looking forward to finishing out my senior year with this group of girls," she said.

The senior has been playing the sport since she was in fourth grade. She got involved when a neighbor asked her to come and try out the youth league in town. She has been playing attacker ever since.

"I like trying to score goals and setting up the offense," said Lungarini.

She said the college and high school games have distinct differences, but her assignment has always been the same.

With her playing career coming to an end, Lungarini says she is already engaging in another aspect of the game, as a referee.

She has worked since her freshman year in college as an official for youth games. She called the experience fun and a way to



Samantha Lungarini in action for Westfield State Women's Lacrosse. She opened the season with a seven-point game. TURLEY PUBLICATIONS PHOTOS SUBMITTED

also do some coaching.

"At that level, when you blow the whistle, you're able to give the kids some instructions," said Lungarini.

She has now branched off to covering junior varsity games late in the season once her college season has ended. She has yet to participate in officiating a varsity level game. She hopes to get to that level once she has finished college.

"I am hoping to be an official, and maybe some day coach," she said.

Lungarini is also majoring in special education and hopes to work with autistic children in the future.

Gregory A. Scibelli is a sports editor for Turley Publications. He can be reached at gscibelli@turley.com or by calling 413-283-8393 ext. 258.

Large crowd set to run St. Pat's Road Race

By Gregory A. Scibelli
gscibelli@turley.com

HOLYOKE – It may not be a milestone year like last year's 40th race, but the Holyoke St. Patrick's Road Race should be even better this year.

If not for any reason, the weather has been much more cooperative this winter and that has resulted in a large number of sign-ups for the race with about a week left before the race.

As of March 8, race organizer Brian Donoghue said 5,200 runners have signed up for the main event, a 10K Road Race set for Saturday, March 19 at 1 p.m. at Maple and Lyman Streets and continuing through some hilly streets in downtown Holyoke.

He expects more people to continue to sign up as the next week progresses, and there could be more than 7,000 runners taking part in the traditional race, which is often one of the first few races in the region.

"Last year was a bit tougher," said Donoghue. "Numbers were down a bit because the winter was so harsh and it was a lot colder. But people are out running already and the good weather gives people a chance to get excited about the race."

There is a 10-mile race in Amherst followed by the St. Patrick's Race, which kicks off the running season for many avid harriers. The Boston Marathon is perhaps the most popular regional race, and that will take place on April 18.

Donoghue said the format of the race is still similar to previous years, but added to the end of the race is the opportunity for runners to get massages in the headquar-

ters tent. He said the service will be available first-come, first-serve for the participants, but he hopes it will help the runners who come across the finish line with cramps and other minor injuries.

Also new this year will be cash prizes for the top three finishers, both male and female, in each age group. In the past, cash prizes were only available for the top three or four overall finishers in the race.

He said the top prize is \$1,000 for the male and female winners. There is also a \$1,000 bonus prize up for grabs if the course record is broken. That happened last year with Ethiopian Ethalemu Habtewold setting the women's course record of 33:10.

The race will also feature the kids race and a two-mile walk. Donoghue anticipates as many as 1,000 children will take part in this year's race thanks to the better weather. Cookies and juice are provided for child participants.

Also being featured this year are a contingent of members of the Massachusetts State Police.

Donoghue said the upcoming graduating class of the police academy will be participating along with current troopers and instructors. He said all of the participants, about 250-300 entrants, will run in formation and receive their own individual start the race.

The event will also feature the usual fanfare and numerous vendors and congregating areas to enjoy the race.

Donoghue also said there will be a heavy police presence and security cameras monitoring the area.

For more information or to sign up for the race, go to www.holyokestpatricksroadrace.org.

AAA Falcons Girls Softball signups

REGION - Looking for a few more players from the Springfield/Belchertown/Granby/Chicopee area for 14 and Under team playing in NEYSA Girls Fast Pitch Softball League.

Team practices and plays home games at Greenleaf Park Springfield.

Also eligible if 15th birthday is in 2016.

Please contact softballcoachdpw@gmail.com or call 413-323-5887.

FOOTBALL ■ from page 13

One suggestion that has been made is expanding the playoffs. For many years due to time constraints in the fall season, only four teams qualify for each tournament. This makes just two rounds in the playoffs, semifinals, and a final.

Chicopee High and Chicopee Comprehensive Athletic Director Jim Blain said he has suggested expanding the playoffs by one week and having six or eight teams qualify.

Capotosto said the six-team format is still on the table, but eight teams are likely out.

"Eight out of 10 teams making the tournament is too many," he said. "But six is something we are considering."

Blain says he does not expect strength of schedule to be an issue for Comp because their recent success should move them to the AA Conference, but understands why other schools have that concern. He believes adding two teams to the playoffs could remedy that.

"It would give more teams the chance to qualify," said Blain.

Agawam was moved from the AA Conference to the Suburban Conference three years ago because the team was having trouble competing. But after three straight years of league titles and appearances in three straight Western Mass. finals, the Brownies are moving up to Division 2 and likely back to the AA Conference, Athletics Director David Stratton believes.

"It's not a lock, but based on the meetings we have had, it appears we are headed back to the AA," said Stratton. "We were expecting this. We have become more competitive."

Eastern Mass. will have teams in Division 1 and 1A. Western Mass. will have teams in Divisions 2, 3, 4, and 4A.

Ludlow, which was in a lower Division 5 under the old format, will be in Division 3 this fall. They will join Chicopee and Belchertown in the new Division 3. They will contend with some tough potential playoff competition, including Longmeadow and East Longmeadow. Both are strong AA Conference members.

South Hadley's declining enrollment moves them down despite recent success. The Tigers were in Division 4 and will remain with that same designation. However, under the new format, Division 4 statewide consists of the "seventh division." South Hadley will join Palmer.

The lowest division, 4A, includes Ware, Dean Tech, and Pathfinder. The competition level represents no change for these schools.

In Central Mass. Quabbin Regional will join competition in Division 3, with opponents like Auburn, Oakmont, and Hudson. Their athletic director, Mark Miville said the move was expected and his team is ready for the competition.

"We see a lot of these teams already in the regular season," said Miville. "So we were expecting this."

Decisions about playoff teams and leagues will be finalized soon as scheduling for the fall season will need to begin, Capotosto said.

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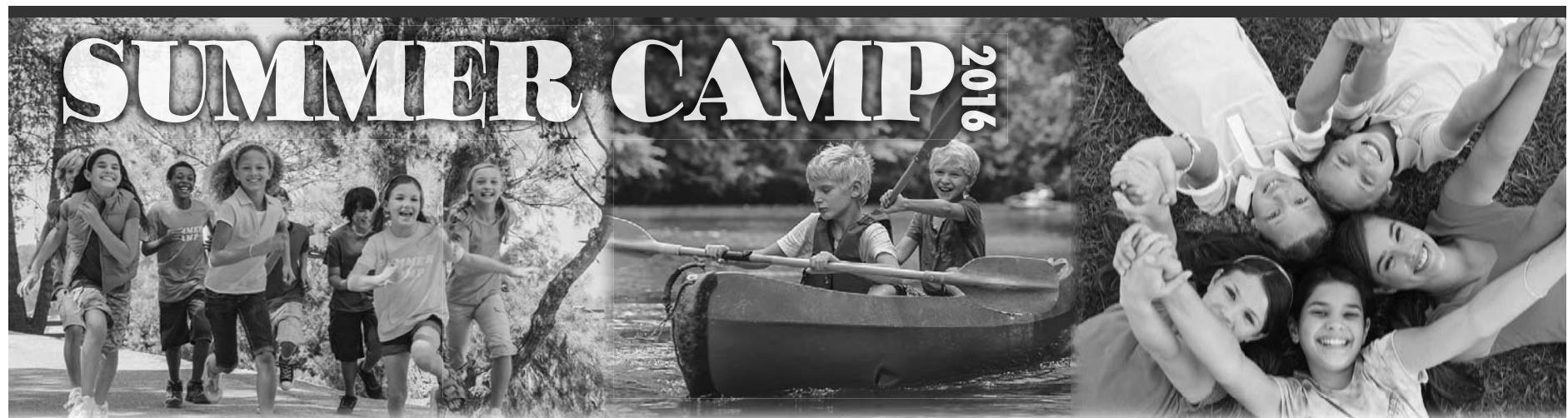
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Mad Science announces new summer activity weeks

Including Brixology w/LEGO™ Bricks Along with Returning Favorites

Mad Science of Western New England, the region's largest provider of fun, hands-on science programs for children, announced today that they are adding new programming and locations throughout the area. Among the new summer programs are Brixology w/LEGO™ Bricks, Survival! Plants, Predators and Prey, Anatomy Academy and E2 Engineering Explorers, which join perennial favorites Crazy

Chemworks, Secret Agent Lab, Space & Beyond, Rockin' Rockets and Red Hot Robots. All programs offers a variety of hands-on activities and demonstrations where kids are challenged to explore, invent, create and solve problems while having fun with science.

"We are very excited to bring new, engaging STEM programs to the children of Western MA and Northern CT said Michael

Budnick, also known as Professor Micron in his Mad Scientist guise. "As an educator and scientist, I am particularly pleased with these new series, which were developed and refined over a number of years to peak children's interest in creative science and engineering and to add additional life science programs."

See **MAD SCIENCE**, next page

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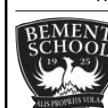
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SUMMER CAMP 2016



MAD SCIENCE from previous page

As with all of the Mad Science programs, children learn and have fun through interactive demonstrations and by experimenting on their own in a hands-on environment. Programs are held on-location throughout the region mainly through local Parks and Recreation or other organization sponsorship. Summer weeks start

the week of June 27th and run through late August with each week independent of the others.

Mad Science is the world's leading provider of hands-on science enrichment and entertainment to elementary-aged children. In addition to summer programming, Mad Science of Western New England conducts after-school programs, in-class STEM workshops, birthday/event parties, stage shows, activity booths, science nights, PTO and scouting events throughout Northern CT, Western MA and Southern VT/NH. The organization operates many programs in partnership with area parks and recreation organizations, community centers, schools and other not-for-profit entities. The company was founded in 1998 and is headquartered in Indian Orchard, MA.

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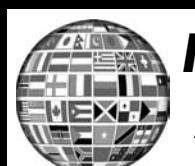
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SUMMER CAMP 2016

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The Bement School offers summer programs for local and international students from 4 to 15 years old. Located on our beautiful campus in Deerfield, Massachusetts, our programs give children the opportunity to enjoy the fun of a traditional day camp and help create their own schedule by choosing from a wide range of unique activities. Our Junior Camp provides a safe, nurturing camp experience for our youngest campers (children ages 4, 5, and 6 years old, or children entering preschool, kindergarten, and first grade). Campers enjoy thematic activities, including games, arts and crafts, and outdoor play, as well as

daily swim lessons and even a special field trip each session. This program is a wonderful introduction to the day camp experience for young children! Our Adventure Camp offers the fun of a traditional day camp paired with exciting activity choices that range from model rocketry to swimming lessons, an introduction to computer science to hands-on colonial history experiences with our neighbors at Historic Deerfield. Our Counselor-in-Training Program is for teenagers (13-15 years old) interested in acquiring skills and abilities that will serve them well when they enter the work force. Bement's Counselor-in-Training Program

allows young adults the opportunity to build leadership skills and a sense of responsibility in a safe, fun environment. On our Outdoor Challenge Weeks (ages 9-14) with Adventure In Adventure Out, your child will broaden his or her internal and external horizons as he or she visits a new outdoor location each day, practices new skills, makes new friends, and is a vital part of a team in an environment full of curiosity and wonder. Activities include rock climbing, caving, canoeing, kayaking, raft building, geocaching, connecting with nature, learning wilderness survival skills, and much more.



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Race into summer at Camp MacDuffie!

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See ARCHERY, next page

.....
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SUMMER CAMP 2016

ARCHERY from previous page

ABOUT AMHERST ARCHERY ACADEMY

Amherst Archery Academy specializes in retail and educational programs in Olympic Style Target Archery. Now celebrating its five year anniversary, hundreds of children and adults enjoy target archery with us every season.



ABOUT OWNER KYLE FORBES BISSELL

Kyle began exploring archery when he was 7 years old and started teaching archery by age 15. With a Masters in Education and a love of teaching, he has been helping people of all ages move their bodies in fun and efficient ways for over 20 years. He was a Level III alpine ski instructor and in 1997 Skiing Magazine was counted among the 75 best instructors in the USA for children. Kyle is passionate about experiential and authentic education. He writes, "I love archery. More specifically, I love the journey and lessons that archery provides; lessons that, unless they are remembered and applied off of the field, are far less potent. Patience, breathing, focus, goal setting, posture, body awareness, quality of character."



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Western Mass. Writing Project
Morning Session Only \$135; Both Sessions \$250
8:30 am - 12:30 pm Media in Digital; 12:30 - 3:30 pm Video and Comics

WEEK 2: Half day (8:30 am - 12:30 pm) Cost \$180 - Collision Repair and Manufacturing
August 1-4 Full day (8:30 am - 3:30 pm) Cost \$225 - Animal Science and Culinary

Program Name	Week #1 July 25-28	Week #2 Aug. 1-4	Half Day	Full Day	TOTAL

Name of student _____ Entering Grade _____ Current School _____
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Address _____ City _____

Please enclose payment payable to SVAHS. Amount Enclosed: _____

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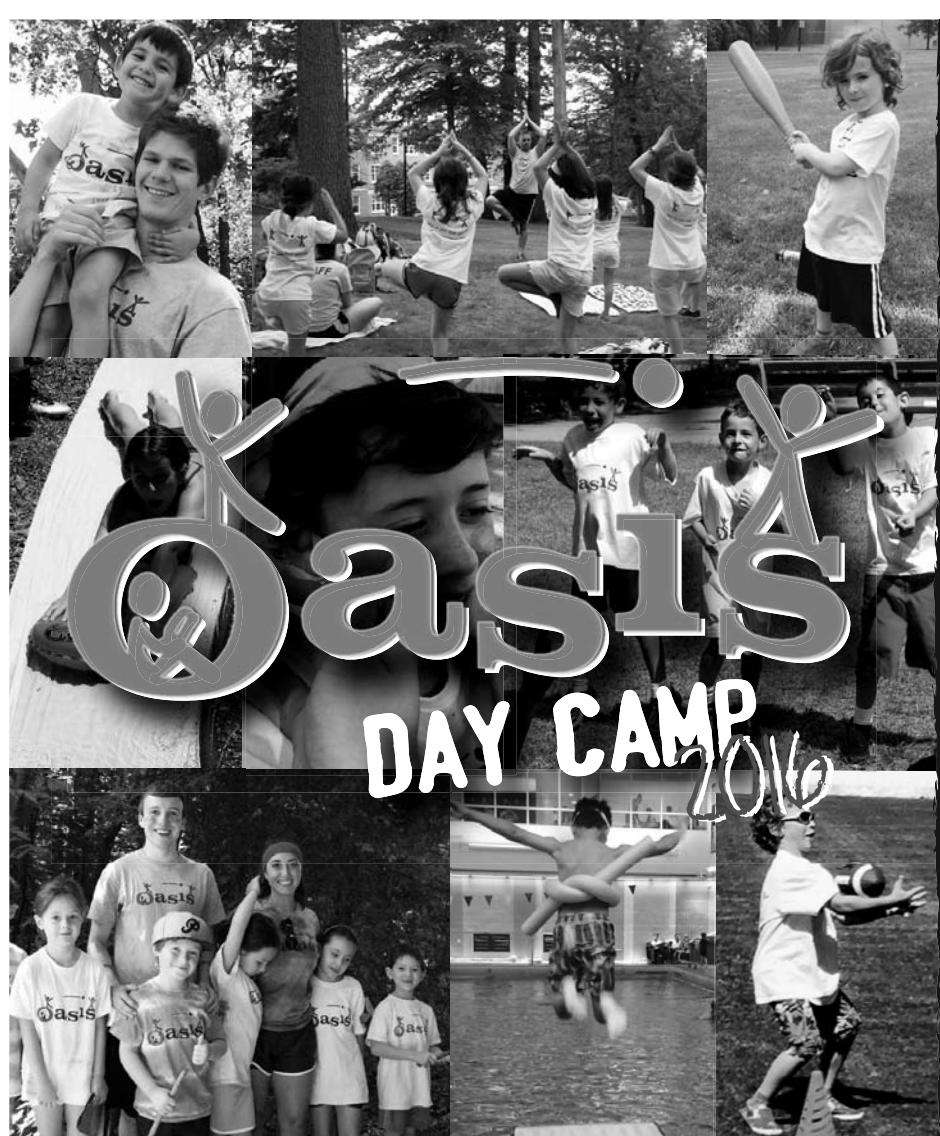
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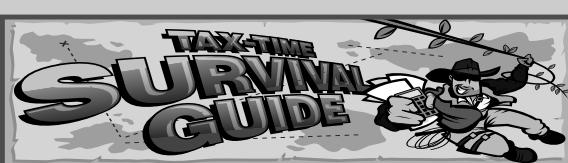
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THE BOARD OF Public Works is accepting applications for temporary, seasonal, maintenance positions in the Ludlow Dept. of Public Works. Hours may vary from week to week. The rate of pay is \$10.00 per hour. Having a Mass. drivers license is preferred.

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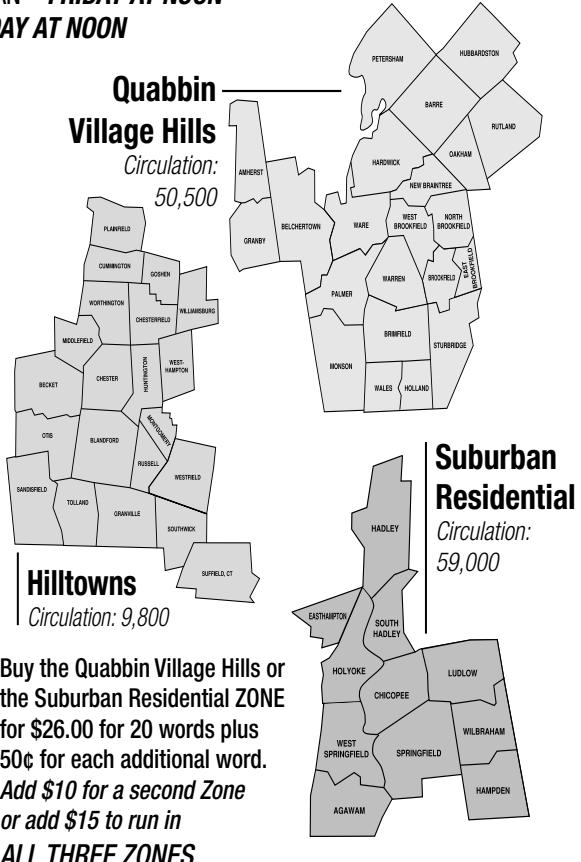
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GREET DAY FOR THE IRISH



State Sen. Don Humason, left, and state Rep. Nicholas Boldyga, right, stand with the Colleen and court. Court members, from left, are Isabel Rose Lamkins, Julianne Moriarty, Colleen Elizabeth Caracciolo, Abigail Grace Malouin and Caroline Wysocki. SUBMITTED PHOTO



Agawam Colleen Elizabeth Caracciolo, front left, stands with Mayor Richard Cohen at the annual St. Patrick's Committee corned beef and cabbage dinner. Back row, from left, are Caracciolo's court members Isabel Rose Lamkins, Abigail Grace Malouin, Julianne Moriarty and Caroline Wysocki. TURLEY PUBLICATIONS PHOTO BY GREGORY A. SCIBELLI



Robert Gourde embraces the green theme. TURLEY PUBLICATIONS PHOTO BY GREGORY A. SCIBELLI



Patricia Murphy is festive and ready for corned beef and cabbage on Monday night at the Agawam Senior Center. TURLEY PUBLICATIONS PHOTO BY GREGORY A. SCIBELLI



Fran Cordi prepares raffle tickets for sale. TURLEY PUBLICATIONS PHOTO BY GREGORY A. SCIBELLI



Rose Ayotte enjoys her meal. TURLEY PUBLICATIONS PHOTO BY GREGORY A. SCIBELLI



Chris Hamel performs at the dinner. TURLEY PUBLICATIONS PHOTO BY GREGORY A. SCIBELLI



Members of the Cassin Academy of Irish Dance performed at the dinner. SUBMITTED PHOTO

Stylists cut ribbon



A grand opening and ribbon-cutting ceremony was held March 3 at Fringe Hair & Nail Bar, 1349B Springfield St., Feeding Hills. Among those in attendance were, above from left, Nicole Cote, Ellen Rendrick, Amanda Olmo, Cristina DeNardo, Danielle Fleury, Sara Roy, Jen Barna, Denise Lapointe, Mayor Richard Cohen, City Council President James Cichetti, Jane Mulligan and City Council President Anthony Suffriti. The new business was also presented a citation that morning from state Rep. Nicholas Boldyga. Pictured at right, serving two seated customers, are, from left, Roy, Lapointe, Boldyga, Fleury, Olmo and Cote. SUBMITTED PHOTOS

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